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# The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. IX.—NO. 7. WEEKLY EDITION. DECEMBER 23, 1871.

1872.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

A PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

The "Presidential year" is always a reading year with the American people. It imposes extraordinary duties on journals from which the people naturally expect not only the news of the day, but intelligent discussion of public questions and enunciation of opinions. While this is true in a general sense, the year before us is likely, in a political sense, to be one of unusual interest;—the Democratic party is breaking up, and there are indications of alliances and purposes altogether novel in our politics. The elections of the past year have resulted in almost an unbroken series of Republican victories. General Grant's administration has received the unequivocal indorsement of the American people; and there is every indication now that, as the Republican candidate, he will be re-elected President. As an INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN PAPER the COMMERCIAL will in the future, as in the past, render an undeviating support to REPUBLICAN PRINCIPLES, holding that the good of the Republic requires that the Government should remain in the hands of the party that saved it in the great life-or-death struggle. In the future as in the past it will speak its own views regarding men and measures, holding that through free discussion only can safe conclusions be reached and the independence of the press preserved. In this regard we can say simply that the COMMERCIAL will be true to itself and its established character.

AS A NEWSPAPER, nothing will be spared to maintain the position which the COMMERCIAL has always held among the journals of the day, for newspaper enterprise as well as for independent opinions. This year, at home and abroad, will be full of interest. European politics are agitated, and the American reader will likely find much in them to attract his attention. At home the political pasts, futures, are being constructed everywhere; new projects are almost daily proclaimed; population is increasing; enterprise intelligently directed was never so well rewarded, and the prospect for the wonderful activities of our country is, to say the least, extremely encouraging. With all these things the COMMERCIAL is intimately identified, and as a BUSINESS PAPER, at the center of the greatest manufacturing district on the continent, has constantly in view whatever of business may reasonably expect to see in its columns,—especially CAREFULLY PREPARED MARKET REPORTS, MANUFACTURING INTELLIGENCE and GENERAL NEWS, collected at home and from abroad.

To our patrons we have only words of cheer. With some of our readers we have held pleasant relations for years. It will be our constant endeavor to continue these relations for many years to come. We feel proud in the fact that the COMMERCIAL wields an influence second to no journal in the State. Its readers as a general thing are the influential, intelligent class of our population. In the counties embracing nearly the whole of Pennsylvania, much of Ohio, West Virginia and States beyond, it is the favorite in the counting-house, the office, the store and the family, especially of business and cultured classes. To hold this place will be our constant effort.

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## WASHINGTON.

**Special Dispatch to the Commercial.**

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18, 1871.

**Good News for the Coal Men.**

Following is the text of the bill which passed both houses to-day, relative to the steam pressure upon towing boats on Western rivers:

That the provisions of the act of February 28, 1871, so far as that act relates to steam pressure on steamboats navigating the Mississippi river and its tributaries, are hereby so modified as to substitute for such boats one hundred and fifty pounds above the pressure of a piston of one hundred and ten pounds, as provided in said act for the standard pressure upon standard boilers of forty-two inches diameter, and of plates of one-quarter of an inch in thickness, and with the addition of one pound for every inch of the Supervising Inspector of the district in which such boats shall carry on their business, for a period of six months from and after the passage of this bill, to be permitted to carry steam above the standerd pressure of 111 pounds, but not exceeding the standard pressure of 150 pounds to the square inch.

**A sharp Transaction.**

The appointment of Senator Stewart on the Committee of Retrenchment has brought out a portion of the sharp game he played in the Emma Mine transaction. It seems that Stewart's company made a scheme of negotiating with the other claimants of the mine and created the impression that they would submit the case by argument to the Secretary of the Interior. In the meantime Stewart started for Washington, arrived here, managed quietly to get a patent to the tract in question, and had been in Europe with it a month before the opposing claimants knew of the sharp practice, they only learning it when the lawyer they retained went to the Department to present their claim.

**Vaccination—A Suggestion.**

*To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:*

I notice in your paper that Wm. McCandless, physician of the Board of Health, announces that *twenty-one* persons have died of small-pox during the week ending with the 10th inst. In Philadelphia, too, this loathsome disease still rages, and sends out its virus on the wings of every wind that springs from the compass. Although cleanliness of person, and moderation in diet, are in a measure good preventives, as Dr. Leasure has well said, the fact is that this, like every other contagious disease, *will* spread more or less in defiance of everything.

Now, upon the same principle on which New York can shut out the commerce of the whole world from her port, if ships are known, or even suspected, to have any contagious disease on board; on the principle that the Legislature of a State, or what would be better still, Congress pass a law disticting the the entire country, appointing physicians to attend to the matter, and requiring every child born during the year to be vaccinated; and, in addition to the physicians, who are presumed to know more on this subject than any other class, that vaccination, when properly performed, *is a preventive* to small-pox. What objection can there be, therefore, to requiring parents by law to have their children vaccinated, just as we require them to pay their taxes? And as the tax-collector in every township is sure to find out every tax-payer, so the physician, officially appointed and paid by the Government, will be sure to know every new-born child, and see to it that he is carefully vaccinated.

What can be easier than to have this practised, even by intelligent people all over the country, in neglecting this precaution, and how dearly they have paid for it in the dark past. Valuable lives! Now I think, as we are all in the same boat—all mutually exposed to the evil consequences of each other's faults—no man has a right to neglect the vaccination of his child, and thus incur the risk of his becoming a nuisance and terror to society, to say nothing the poison of this most terrible disease.

Besides the loss of life, it is expensive in money to a city to harbor a fearful and contagious disease among its people. We had only two or three cases of small-pox in this village last summer, and such we think is the fear of the country people that it was calculated business men lost custom to the amount of ten thousand dollars. How much do you suppose, Mr. Editor, the merchants and hotels of Pittsburgh, and the railroad companies, have lost by the knowledge in prevalence of small-pox in your city? I venture to say, with what Philadelphia has lost from the same cause, enough money to pay all the physicians of the State their fees for vaccinating the children on the plan I have suggested.

Respectfully, A. B. B.

ENON VALLEY, PA., December 13, 1871.

SIR WILLIAM JENNER, whose name is now brought prominently before the public as chief physician to the Prince of Wales, was born at Chatham in 1815, and received his education at the University of London. After acquiring a thorough knowledge as a general practitioner, he was made surgeon-accoucheur to the Royal Maternity Charity, and in 1844 retired altogether from the general practice of his profession. In 1848 he became a member of the Royal College of Physicians, and the same year was appointed professor of pathological anatomy in University College hospital and assistant physician to the college hospital. He has held several other important positions among the medical fraternity; in 1861 was gazetted physician in ordinary to the Queen, and in 1863 was chosen to perform the same office for the Prince of Wales. He has written several professional papers of high merit, but is best known as having been the first to establish beyond doubt the difference between typhus and typhoid fevers—a branch of knowledge which he has had occasion to use in the case of his royal patients.

THE following snake story is told in a letter written from Owsley county, Kentucky: "I went to my upper farm to see my tenant, and found him prepared to move. On inquiring the cause, he told me the house was haunted—some persons swept it every night. He moved out and I moved in—in order to dislodge the ghost if possible. The third night, about midnight, the sweeping commenced. I got from my bed as quick as I could, to get a light, and while I was getting a light the cat attacked the ghost, and a fight commenced. The cat was whipped pretty quickly. I ran in with the light and there my eyes met a sight that made my blood run cold in my veins—the largest kind of a rattle snake, in his coils, swaying and rattling at a fearful rate. He had sixteen rattles and one button."

IF the failure of Philadelphia to afford sufficient encouragement to induce the Nilsson manager to give week of Italian opera there was from want of enterprise and musical taste, the fact is sadly against that city; but if it was a systematic and thoroughly meant refusal of Strakosh and his extortionate management, it is greatly to its credit.

## CONGRESS.

### The Retrenchment Committee.

### Power Given to Send for Persons and Papers.

**Special Dispatch to the Commercial.**

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18, 1871.

In the debate, which was renewed with great vigor to-day, on the Retrenchment Committee, Messrs. Conkling, Sherman, Morton, Chandler, Edmunds and others, who have been fighting Trumbull's resolution, gave as a reason that it is too limited and does not give the Committee half the powers contemplated by Morton's caucus resolution, and also by the amendment thereto which Conkling agreed to-day. After their picked committee had been announced, these Senators suddenly became as bold as lions in pursuit of fraud, and the independent Republicans, in view of their assertions to-day, are wondering whether after all they have not been rather lax in demanding that the Committee should have more powers than contemplated in Trumbull's resolution.

Immediately after Mr. Anthony had announced the Retrenchment Committee as agreed upon in caucus, Mr. Sumner got the floor and commented upon the way in which it had been made up rather severely. He addressed himself personally to Buckingham, and asked the latter Senator if his conscience did not teach him that in accepting the Chairmanship of the Retrenchment Committee he was usurping a place which by all laws of courtesy and parliamentary usage belonged to Trumbull, as the author of the original resolution. Thus appealed to, Mr. Buckingham explained that he had asked the Senator from Illinois if he would accept the chairmanship of the Committee, and when the latter declined having replied to negatively, took it himself upon the solicitation of brother Senators. Mr. Trumbull denied having refused in the manner stated. Mr. Sumner then proceeded to speak of other members thereof, and to show that every one, with the exception of Bayard, had voted against the proposition to create the committee. He compared referring any matters to a committee under such auspices like putting a child to a nurse who cared not for it. Other objections being made to the composition of the committee, it was suggested as an amendment to him that one more Democrat be added thereto, and the name of Mr. Casserly was suggested and accepted. Mr. Logan, who has been heard in the Senate but once or twice during his term, has made one of the most telling speeches that has been delivered during this long debate. He protested against the whole caucus system, which sought to fetter independent thought and action. For one, on no future did not propose to allow himself to be bound by its dictations. He struck at the heart of the present difficulty by saying there were about five men in the Senate who considered themselves the Republican party, and who attempted to run the party in their own selfish interests. He did not propose to allow himself to be removed out of the party by this self-appointed clique, nor to be put down by their antagonism towards the administration simply because they saw fit to so assert it. He believed the administration to be honest and well meaning, and that its greatest mistake was that it had been too narrow-minded and wrong-headed defenders. If the administration had suffered in this present struggle, it was because it had been misrepresented and placed in a false position by its leaders. Chandler followed in a speech which was well delivered, and its scathing effects were felt by the clique to whom it was addressed, but one of whom essayed to reply thereto.

Conkling was in a bad humor all day over his unsuccessful fight in the morning, and his sarcasm and hard, while Morton was more than usually dogmatic, in first asserting that we had the best civil service in the world, and second, that he was its most exemplary patron and champion. Some of his points were so very forcible in commenting on Trumbull's resolution, that they excited smiles of even his partisans. He was principally opposed to Trumbull's resolution, he said, because it was a Buffalonian proposition, by which he meant one which was drawn by him without reported from the caucus by authority, was more generous in the powers it proposed to confer upon the committee.

When the session began, Trumbull's resolution of instruction to the committee, authorizing it to inquire in regard to the abuse of patronage, and to send for persons and papers, was pending. This was voted out of the way, so that a vote thereon might not take precedence of the caucus resolution. When Trumbull got the floor, he read from the *Globe* to show that when the Retrenchment Committee was raised in the Thirty-ninth Congress, no objection occurred in either House, but that in each the language of his pending resolution was used in its amendments by Sherman, Edmunds and Anthony in succession, and that the identical clauses these gentlemen had drawn were the very ones they had been vigorously fighting for several days. This provoked the great annoyance and chagrin of the whole company who had opposed him.

Edmunds undertook to flounder out of the embarrassing position, but only succeeded in making one of his sourest and most dyspeptic efforts. He was greatly grieved at the course of the press in the matter, and consoled his brother officers with the reflection that the press did not represent anything but the opinions of a few men who controlled the leading journals. He exceeded some of his associates in impropriety by reading to the Senate a private letter received from Trumbull a short time before, for which he was severely rebuked. Finally, Trumbull's resolution was voted down by 29 to 18, at which there was the first signs of relief for the day on the part of Conkling & Co., and these quickly disappeared upon Wilson rising and moving to give the Committee power to send for persons and papers, which was carried, 37 to 17. The seventeen who voted against the proposition to act were: Messrs. Anthony, Sherman, Cameron, Carpenter, Chandler, Clayton, Corbett, Edmunds, Ferry, of Michigan, Flannagan, Frelinghuysen and Stewart. Of the Committee the following sat in their seats and declined to vote: Conkling, Harlan, Howe, and Pool. Among those who left before the vote was taken were Buckingham, Morton and Sherman.

The caucus resolution, with Wilson's amendment, was then passed. The Senate adjourned, leaving Conkling's buncombe resolution to investigate the New York Custom House for future consideration, and probably for further debate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 18, 1871.

MR. CONKLING offered a resolution directing the Retrenchment Committee to investigate Mr. Schurz's charges against the New York Custom House. Its consideration was postponed till the committee was appointed.

MR. ANTHONY offered a resolution for the appointment of the following Committee on Investigation, pursuant to the power: Buckingham; Pratt, Howe, Harlan, Stewart, Pool and Bayard.

MR. SUMNER—I ask the Senate to understand that for myself I care not whether I here are named as members of this Committee any of the Senators who may be forward in this inquiry, and vote for the Committee. [Laughter.]

MR. ANTHONY—The Senator knows that as well as I do. I think the gentlemen named are exceedingly judicious, sensible, moderate men, who command the confidence of their associates, though I do not know that they have made themselves very conspicuous in connection with the charges that have been made.

MR. SUMNER—When I heard the list I was astonished at the absence of certain names. I see on this list as the name of a single Senator who urged this investigation, or who voted for an investigation by the Committee on Privileges and Elections of Senator from Delaware. [Bayard.] The Senators on this list all voted against an investigation by the Committee on Privileges and Elections of Senator in favor of the investigation in the strongest terms, except Senator Pool, who is excluded from this Committee. It is for the Senate to determine, after the debate that has occurred, whether a Committee constituted in this way can satisfy the country. Perhaps, also, it would be worth while to consider whether it is in accordance with parliamentary usage. It is laid down in Jefferson's Manual that those who take exceptions to some particulars in a bill are the fittest persons to be employed to speak directly against the body of a bill; for a child is not to be put to a nurse that cares not for it. You perceive, Mr. President—you naturally smile when you see that process going on in this chamber. Jefferson proceeds to say: "It is therefore a constant rule that no man is to be employed in any matter who has declared himself against it, but rather such a one who is against a bill hears himself named on the committee, he should ask to be excused. [Laughter.] Now, as I understand this inquiry was first presented by the Senator from Illinois [Trumbull], and urged by him in an elaborate and able speech, which has already awakened echoes throughout the country, I think he ought not to be on the committee. In the debate on this subject that Senator was sustained by Senator from Missouri [Schurz], who I miss his name. There were other Senators, I think, who spoke on that side; certainly there were others who voted on that side. I miss all their names, and I think the country will miss them. For five years past there has been a Committee on Retrenchment, a judicial character, but still a representative of the Senate. I know not whether any of the members of that committee appear on the list of the Senator from Rhode Island.

MR. SCHURZ—No.

MR. SUMNER—My friend before me says not one. Neither the Chairman of that Committee, Mr. Patterson, who had gained much experience in forreaching out abroad, nor one of his associates, finds a place on this Committee. Why, Sir, to me it is simply astounding. I am at a loss to understand how my friend from Rhode Island [Anthony,] in whom I believe relgns a spirit of justice, can bring forward a proposition for such a committee. But I have no desire to go into any opposition. I am only one. I simply make this statement that it may be of record, and that hereafter, should this committee fail in its inquiries, the country may know that the Senate was at least warned with regard to its character. I desire it to be understood that I have not one word except kindness for the much respected Senators who are named on this committee. I simply call attention to the fact that they took no part either by speech or vote in urging the inquiry, and that there appears upon this list no Senator who did. My purpose is accomplished if I call the attention of my friend from Rhode Island (Anthony) to the character of the committee he proposes. [Laughter.]

MR. ANTHONY—I believe that the appointment of this committee is strictly parliamentary. The committee was voted for unanimously. The Senator from Illinois [Trumbull] moved a joint committee, and had that committee been agreed upon, he would have been entitled to the chairmanship of it. But the resolution under which this committee was appointed was moved by me, and if the committee were appointed by the chair, I would probably be asked to be excused as chairman. I don't know what my friend from Massachusetts [Sumner] means when he speaks of Senators here who are opposed to his inquiry. I don't know of a single Senator who is opposed to the most searching and thorough inquiry into any charges of corruption by whomsoever made in this Chamber. Every Senator who has spoken on this subject has declared himself in favor of a thorough investigation, and I ask my friend to read the names of the men of this committee and say if there is a man there that he believes would cover up corruption. I consider this committee an eminently judicious one. This is the first time in my experience in the Senate that I have ever heard a committee objected to on account of the character of its members, and I am glad that the first experiment has been tried upon Senators against whom so little can be said.

MR. THURMAN—The Senator from Rhode Island wholly evades the question. No Senator will say a word in disparagement of the character of either of the Senators proposed as members of this Committee, and to such case can be forced upon the Senate. We are not here to investigate the character of Senators. We are here to inquire whether this proposed Committee will be in accordance with parliamentary usages and good sense. The question is whether, having resolved to investigate, the investigations shall be committed to the Committee, the majority of whom are earnestly in favor of the investigations, or to men who are opposed to it. To say that those who favor the investigation ought to be upon the Committee implies no imputation upon the motives of those who would be excluded from it. There is a difference of opinion in the Senate as to the existence of frauds and the necessity for an investigation.

MR. CONKLING—What difference?

MR. THURMAN—The Senator from Nevada said the other day there was no necessity for an investigation at all; that this administration and its officials were so pure that there was nothing to investigate.

MR. FRELINGHUYSEN asked Mr. Thurman whether the parliamentary rule was not that Senators who voted for the measure should be upon the Committee.

MR. THURMAN—You can't evade the rule by taking six or seven gentlemen that voted for the resolution. There is a rule that the Senator who moves for an inquiry is to be placed at the head of the committee. It be by the dominant party in the Senate, and from Illinois [Trumbull] is now put at the head of this Committee.

MR. BUCKINGHAM—The Senator from Illinois (Trumbull) distinctly declined, not publicly but privately, to be Chairman of the Committee of the Committee.

MR. TRUMBULL—The only conversation I ever had upon the subject, except in the Senate Chamber, was with the Senator from Connecticut. After the debate closed during the progress of the vote, the Senator and myself stood in the Democratic cloak room, and proposed simply to raise a Committee and give it no powers except such as the Senate should afterwards confer upon it. I did say to the Senator that I could not consistently serve upon the Committee in that way.

The morning hour here expired, and on motion of Mr. ANTHONY, the unfinished business was postponed by a vote of 41 to 22.

MR. NORMAN—Another parliamentary usage, he said, had been violated in this case. It was usual in the organization of committees that even representatives upon a committee, but this committee had been cooked up in a Republican caucus, and that, he believed, is the first time that was to be allowed in the committee selected without consulting the minority further. It was remarkable that there was but one Democrat to be put upon a committee which was to conduct an investigation into a bureau as the union. Democratic senators were satisfied with the appointment of Senator Pool upon the ground that the majority had undertaken to select for them at all, and also that one member could not fairly represent the Democratic party in the committee.

MR. HOWE protested against being classed as a partisan, and declared that he would not serve on the committee.

MR. BAYARD thought Mr. Sumner's criticism just. He believed that the Senate ought to be represented with only one Democrat was that when a Senator offers a resolution of inquiry in some particular case, he implies that no other person is to be trusted in it. He (Bayard) had not

# Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1871.

## GEN. GRANT LEADS!

The report of the Civil Service Commissioners, and the Message with which the President accompanied its transmission to Congress, will be read with uncommon interest by the people generally, and receive—we doubt not—the unqualified approval of everybody who has sincerely at heart the best interests of the country; to the advancement of which nothing can more directly or largely conduce than the erection of those standards of honesty and efficiency which the message and the report alike contemplate as permanent tests and gauges of fitness for appointment to the public service.

The COMMERCIAL certainly cannot be charged with servility or sycophancy toward the present Administration. We believe, however, in rendering to every man, whether public officer or private citizen, the credit which he deserves; and we give it as our opinion that in this step the President has shown himself to be the most practical embodiment of the spirit of reform and economy in public administration which the country has known for a long series of years. Whatever efforts have been made under previous administrations to correct the evils growing out of the practice of treating the public service as a clover meadow for the benefit of party hacks, have been feeble, occasional and temporary; were not voluntary and uncompelled, and did not, as in this instance, proceed from the internal impulse and energy of the administration itself. There have been numerous fumblings at the Gordian knot before, but this is the first time in the history of the Government that its tangled involutions have at a stroke been cloven through. For it should be remembered that this new departure of the President, as indicated in the message which accompanies the report, involves a complete and radical change of *governmental base*; is totally at variance with the whole theory and precedent of the country for many administrations back, and calls for as much unflinching courage and patriotic purpose as did his movement across the Rapidan, when he formed his new line against LEE, and proposed to fight it out thereon if it took all summer. Indeed, the message itself has in it something of the crisp decisiveness of his general field orders or battle programmes, and means, as they did, effective and practical work. Having become convinced of his authority in the premises, he announces his purpose of assuming the full responsibility at once already. He asks that requisite legislation may be had to make the rules established by the Commission binding on his successors. This is reasonable and proper, and while the success of the measure, so far as the present administration is concerned, does not rest with Congress, yet we have no doubt that that body will at once act upon his suggestion, and facilitate by all means in its power the progress of the proposed reform. The people of the country will certainly uphold him. He did not lack their support when, in the bitter, disheartening days of 1862, he electrified the land and inaugurated the policy which led to the suppression of the rebellion, by "moving at once upon the enemy's works;" nor will he fall off in prosecuting this other campaign now instituted for the purpose of rectifying existing abuses, and making integrity, capacity and economy constituent elements of the administration of the public service. The masses of the people care very little for methods of action, but they care everything for results. All that they demanded during the rebellion, was, that the war should be pushed without stop or pause until the rebels laid down their arms; all that they require now, is that the reform shall go on; and they will give their countenance and support to the President because they believe him to be sincerely desirous of testing the new plan to the utmost, and insuring, by every means in his power, the purity and efficiency of the public service, and, as a consequence thereof, the national good.

It must not, of course, be expected that evils complained of, or fit the office to the man or the man to the office. All real and permanent reforms are the work of time, the more fundamental in their nature the slower in their growth. The tests of experience will unquestionably develop weak points in and call for various modifications of the plan. This is the history of all aggressive movements, whether military or moral. The chief value of the scheme consists in the fact that it is a movement in the right direction. It is a start for Richmond. It is a practical recognition of the paramount importance of basing the conduct of affairs on intelligence and morality. It supercedes the miserable cry, "to the victors belong the spoils," with the better watchword, "to our country belongs all." It puts an end to the system of irresponsible and reckless recommendations for office now in vogue. It stops the shameful traffic which has existed in the buying and selling of public place, and it gives to honest and efficient servants the assurance that so long as they continue upright and faithful, so long the government whom they serve will protect them alike from the exactions of personal avarice, the demands of political exigency and the proscriptions of partisan spleen.

The press and people of the country have for a considerable period called for the adoption of some method of appointment to office whereby a better civil service might be secured. With the masses this demand has without question been genuinely and earnestly meant; and although it is probable that some of the politicians who have clamored loudest for the reform have been least desirous to promote it, it is not necessary to speak of that now. The President, in response to what he believed to be, and what no doubt is, the general sentiment and wish of the people, has put himself at their head, and called upon them to sustain him in making appointments to office, and promotion in it, dependent on merit alone. It remains now to be seen, whether there are any who, from party prejudice, or personal dislike, will refuse that sanction and support to which the plan and its author are equally entitled.

About once a year, on an aver age, the land owners of the Southern States break out with an attack of what may perhaps be described as the immigration measles. We observe from our exchanges from that quarter that the disease is widely prevalent just now, the broad acres lying unimproved in those States furnishing the basis of a considerable amount of really excellent writing and speech making concerning the importance of the development of their material resources, and the necessity of an influx of capital and immigration to bring that desirable end about. The chief difficulty in the way of its accomplishment has hitherto consisted in the fact that, after the talking and writing fever was over, the landed proprietors, planters and other persons most nearly interested in the industrial progress of those States, have set their faces like flints against the precise means and methods which alone can give them the material prosperity whose absence they so eloquently profess to deplore. It was of very little use, for instance, for the leading business men of Georgia to unite, six months since, in an address to the people of the North, setting forth the inducements and attractions which that State offered to settlers. TOOMBS, STEPHENS, and the bitter, rancorous followers for whom they then spoke and still speak, effectually nipped that project in the bud. So, too, it will avail nothing to invite immigrants to South Carolina, so long as the Ku-Klux Klan is permitted to exist within its borders. The State of North Carolina a year or two ago lured, by her glowing descriptions, a number of capitalists and industrial workers from the Northern States, but they shook off the dust of their feet against her in the very moment of discovering that, in order to purchase immunity from molestation, they must apostatize from their most cherished principles. Nor will Virginia find fruition of her hopes until she treads her canturied prejudices beneath her feet, and secures for all, as well as promises to all, the unrestricted and undisturbed possession of every prerogative and privilege which belong to manhood and to citizenship. And, after all is said and done, the development of the South will be found to depend chiefly on the labor of the negroes; and it seems beyond question that if some plan could be devised by which the freedmen could be put into possession of homesteads of their own, thus becoming practically identified with the industrial and productive life of the Southern people, it would vastly conduce to the prosperity of the whole section.

In a well considered article on Mr. HOAR'S labor bill, the New York *Bulletin* expresses the hope that Congress will refuse to meddle with the question in any way, shape or form; points out that the next step beyond the proposed investigation would be the venturing of dangerous experiments in legislation designed to remedy the real or imaginary evils which the Commissioners might discover and report, and that when Congress had gone thus far there would be no telling when or where it would stop; and adds—what is most true and partinent of all—that labor in this country has no real grievance of which to complain. This is a remarkable statement to emanate from such a source. That journal, which is thoroughly wedded to free trade doctrines, has all along held that our tariff system was an organized oppression of labor for the benefit of capital, by artificially protecting the interests of the latter, and imposing on the former a heavy and ruinous taxation. But in the light of this frank admission what becomes of its argument against protection? If the American workingman has no grievance of which to complain, it is because the wages he receives for his labor make his condition so immeasurably superior to that of the European workingman; because under our protective system he is better fed, better housed, and better clothed; and in every sense enjoys more of the substantial physical comforts and social and educational advantages of life than his less fortunate co-worker in Great Britain. It is true that the expenses of living are greater in this country than in England, but this difference in the cost of comforts which money buys is far more than compensated for by the increased rates of wages which the protective tariff enables our manufacturers to pay their workingmen. Why should the *Bulletin* desire to abolish this system, and to reduce the wages of American mechanics, when, by its own inferential admission, that and normal states of our laboring population and material classes is so greatly elevated and benefited thereby?

The Philadelphia *North American* argues in favor of the multiplication of railways as the best means of developing our State, and cites Pittsburgh among other cities as standing in need of greater facilities. The theme is capable of almost indefinite expansion. To start with, there is not a poverty-stricken road in Pennsylvania. With very limited and unimportant exceptions all pay a good per centage on their cost. The outcome of their construction in development cannot be estimated, while to this cause much of the increase of our population is due. It is entirely safe to build railroads in Pennsylvania; and no mile of road is built that does not assist to open the hidden wealth of the State. To this there is no limit. Every year we are more and more amazed at the extent and value of our minerals. While these would be comparatively valueless without railroads, they make them profitable in almost every instance. To local development the narrow-gauge system is specially adapted, not more so, however, than to trunk lines. It is as clear as anything ever was that with a narrow-gage road from the headwaters of the Ohio to tide water and the lateral branches that would spring out like branches of a tree, not only would the present great railway system not suffer from the competition, but, with the State at large, would be vastly benefited in the resulting development. The present railroads are not equal to the demands on them, and new roads have become a pressing necessity. And in this connection we would inquire of our Philadelphia contemporary, which refers approvingly to the narrow-gauge system, what it knows of the "Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York Narrow-Gauge Railroad Company," whose office is on South Fifth street, Philadelphia?

The bill amending the steamboat law, which went through both branches of Congress on Monday, will greatly relieve steamboatmen on the Western rivers. They acted with promptness and vigor and have won a real victory. Acting together they in Congress that the law passed at the last session, relating to a matter of the utmost importance, could not be too promptly repealed at this. The law itself was a monstrosity. Ever since Congress began to legislate relative to boilers, gauges and other contrivances, the point of safety, which was ostensibly the object, has continually receded. Practically, in many respects, the responsibility has been transferred to the shoulders of the Government, which relies on all sorts of devices and restrictions, of which the law just now so promptly repealed is a pretty fair specimen. A new bill relating to boilers is in preparation, which we wish we could believe will be an improvement, but we greatly fear that there is not sufficient ground for so much confidence. However, since the rule has been started of undoing at the opening of one session what, in this regard, was done at the close of another, perhaps there is, beyond the vexation incidental to such a course, not much to be apprehended.

The leading members of the Tammany ring have very often boasted of the number and potency of their friends, and it would almost seem as if a strong attachment did really exist toward them on the part of the people generally; indictment upon indictment, and detainer on detainer, being issued against TWEED and CONNOLLY, with a rapidity almost equal to the rate at which papers of citizenship were formerly ground out by the naturalization mills of that city. This shows the depth and intensity of the interest which the people take in them, and it is to be hoped the solicitude may not in anywise abate. The bulletins issued from Sandringham by the medical attendants of the Prince of Wales during his late alarming illness, were not read with more interest nor awaited with more eagerness by the people of England, than are these bulletins descriptive of the rapid recovery of New York from its almost fatal attack of paralysis of the moral faculties, watched and waited for by the good citizens of this country generally; and it is probable that the honest and hearty subjects of Great Britain will rejoice quite as much with our patient in its hopeful convalescence, as do the people of the United States with them at the prospect of the restoration to health of their sovereign Prince. Of the two nations, it is probable we are to be most congratulated.

The heated debate in the United States Senate about the mode of reforming the Civil Service and retrenching the public expenditures being over, with neither side having its way exclusively, the Civil Service plan submitted and already adopted by Gen. GRANT affords the common ground whereon all can meet and stand. Senators SCHURZ, TRUMBULL and others have been specially earnest in their demands for precisely what Gen. GRANT'S plan is designed to insure, and they should now come promptly to his support. While Congress has been talking Gen. GRANT has acted, and in a manner that will bring the country promptly to his support. There is no mistake about his standard of reform—it is as true as that which he raised in the Wilderness and planted in victory at Appomattox. In this he has shot ahead of Congress, which should make haste to come up to his support, where they will find the Republican party. The ideas which Gen. SCHURZ has been so ably enforcing Gen. GRANT has worked into a Plan which he will put in practice within the next ten days. That which our statesmen approached with so much hesitation and doubt Gen. GRANT in the simplest manner sets in operation; just as he put down the rebellion after every body else had failed.

Although the Retrenchment Committee on the part of the United States Senate is not in its composition in accordance with public sentiment, and is not what the same caucus would select to-morrow, public opinion will continue to be active and compel the Committee, should there be any reluctance shown, to perform their work thoroughly. The circumstances attending the raising of the Committee have brought out, in the expression of public opinion, the proof that party expediency, as well as moral and political principle, favor the most thorough inquiry into every branch of the public service, to the end that abuses of every description may be searched out and reformed. This is what Gen. GRANT recommends and desires; and he is all the stronger for it. The Republican party will find its strength in a rigorous application of the President's policy. He is leading in the right direction. The people recognize the fact, and will rally to his support as they did when he led our armies against the rebels.

We have not a single word to utter against the late appropriation of four millions of dollars by Congress for the purpose of reconstructing the United States public buildings in Chicago. On the contrary, we rejoice at it, knowing, as we do, that in a variety of ways it must be productive of benefit. Still, however, we are of the opinion of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* that a country rich enough to make this munificent appropriation, ought not hesitate for a moment in giving double the amount to render the Ohio river navigable throughout the year. The public value and importance of the Chicago buildings may be, doubtless is, considerable—and we are heartily glad that the appropriation in question has been made. So far as the commercial and financial interests of the nation are concerned, however, it is but a drop in the bucket compared with the advantages that would result from keeping the navigation of our great highway open all the year round.

It may be that the general public is a little wearied or befogged with the Civil Service question; but surely, few persons, however wearied or befogged, will fail to comprehend joyfully what is meant when it is said that the committee, of which GEORGE W. CURTISS is Chairman, charged with the duty of framing a plan for reforming the Service, are about to report one, which prohibits recommendations for office from Congressmen, and also prohibits removals on political grounds. There is of course much more in the plan, but these are two conspicuous features. Gen. GRANT, it is believed, will indorse the report and send it to Congress; but its sanction is not deemed necessary to put it in operation, as the plan is only a new set of rules under existing laws. With such a system in operation, the ax will be laid at the roots of many of the worst evils that afflict the country.

The sudden ordering home of Count CATACAZY suggests the probability that until General GRANT'S message was received at St. Petersburg, the full extent to which he had made himself offensive and the importance attached to his conduct by this government were not perfectly comprehended. While CATACAZY, without doubt, simply obeyed his instructions and did no more than was expected of him, the publicity given to his conduct has probably rendered it necessary that his government should seem to be displeased with him. The narrative of Mr. FISH was so extremely damaging that Prince GORTCHAKOFF doubtless perceived that a longer residence here would compromise Russia if it did not menace the kindly relations between the two countries. But we shall doubtless hear of CATACAZY enjoying the favor of his government in some other capacity.

The sudden and unexpected appearance of some United States naval vessels in the port of Havana, immediately succeeding the brutal shooting of the students, produced considerable consternation in Spanish official circles. The forts were strengthened, and troops distributed to repel the invasion which it was supposed was at hand. The Governor General demanded more troops of Spain "on account of the suspicious attitude of the United States," and preparations for fighting were made on all sides. But trustworthy information says that should it come to actual fighting, the Spanish forces would speedily succumb and the authority of Spain be overthrown. So precarious is its hold now on the island that no del berate courting of hostilities with the United States need be expected.

The *Herald* points to Mexico and Cuba for an issue whereon to rally the country, and silence controversy about the Presidency. Without particular regard to the effect which such a policy would have on the Presidential election, it seems to us that the administration might safely rely on the support of the country in a vigorous course towards Spain. The so-called war in the island of Cuba is a scandal to the civilized world. American citizens have been outraged and our flag insulted, which is the duty we owe to those who are struggling for freedom—more especially from Spanish tyranny. Let us have a vigorous Cuban policy.

The return of Gen. SICKLES will create a diplomatic vacancy, in filling which unusual prudence should be exercised. Notwithstanding the personal objections that were urged to Gen. SICKLES, we venture to say that it will be the testimony of the State Department that he has ably performed his duties; and the Administration, after all that has been said of the returning Minister, will not easily find one who will fill his place. Just at present we should be well represented at Madrid; and now that there is to be a change it is a favorable moment to inaugurate a more vigorous policy, for desiring which there are so many reasons.

The subjects referred to the Senate Retrenchment and Reform Committee are numerous enough, and there is a bare suspicion that the intention existed to break the investigation down. Considering the material of the Committee, there is not as much of outcome to be expected as could be desired; but so thoroughly aroused is public sentiment that it will not be put off. The Committee, if it is not right, will have to be made so, and in our judgment the wisest thing the representatives of the Administration could do would be to inject Senator SCHURZ into the Committee and let him go ahead.

The abolition of the entire system of internal taxation, excepting spirits and tobacco, in accordance with the recommendation of the President, is confidently predicted at an early day. This is a matter about which Congress should not hesitate. The President and Secretary of the Treasury unite in saying that the Government will not longer require the taxes, and of course the machinery will be useless. Its abolition must necessarily follow—an emancipation that will greatly redound to the credit of the administration. Why cannot it be that with the New Year the new order of things will commence?

The catalogue of things and events for which at the closing of the year we should be truly grateful, would be incomplete did it not include the action of the Democratic Legislature of Kentucky in refusing to send GARRETT DAVIS again to the United States Senate. The choice has fallen on T. C. MCCREERY, late Senator, whose almost sole conspicuous act was in favor of removing the loyal dead from Arlington and restoring the property to the LEE family. That endeared him to Kentucky.

The impression has generally obtained in the United States, as well among the press as the people, that Gonzalo Segura, at whose tomb the recently murdered medical students substituted a wreath of garlic for another of immortelles, was a Spanish general of the army. A correspondent of the Boston *Traveller*, writing from Havana, corrects this mistake. He was not a military man, and never fought a battle. His first appearance in Cuba was as the editor of a virulent and bloodthirsty paper started in the interest of the dethroned Queen Isabella. It will be recollected that the editor of a similar journal, published at Key West, was challenged by Castanon, for commenting with severity upon the cruel and murderous line of policy advocated by the Spanish writer, who with a crowd of sympathizers came over from Cuba for the purpose of provoking his critic to a duel; which was, however, prevented by the vigilance of the authorities. In a fracas which subsequently ensued between his own followers and the Cuban friends of the Madrid journalist, Castanon was killed; his body being taken to Havana and honored with an imposing funeral at which many defenceless people, including two American citizens, were murdered in the streets by the volunteers. This is the idol whose remains were occasioned so much trouble, and given rise to the exhibition of ferocity and cruelty which has evoked such universal indignation and loathing.

We referred a day or two ago to the number of joint stock associations forming in England and Germany. The mania in the former country for speculation would seem to be almost equal to the oil and mining fevers which raged in this country a few years ago. In the single month of October there were incorporated, in London alone, sixty-eight companies, representing a nominal capital aggregating more than $24,000,000, and aiming to carry on all sorts of enterprises in all parts of the world, under prospectuses promising everything except financial failure.

The State Department has received a communication from Gen. Schenck, Minister to England, relative to his connection with the Emma Mine. He explains the exact nature of his interest in connection with the company, and, admitting the impropriety of a Minister Plenipotentiary embarking in commercial adventures in the country to which he is accredited, states that he has dissolved connection with the mining company, and so will condinue disconnected therewith whilst he remains in his position as Minister.

## GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The liberal papers in Holland charge King William, of the Netherlands, with having sold most of the valuable paintings of the Royal Gallery at the Hague, and with having substituted very inferior copies in their place.

A Paris paper says: "A picture, celebrated for its size, bright color, and bad taste, representing "America," and which was painted for Mr. A. T. Stewart, of New York, for the modest price of $25,000, lies rolled up in a storehouse. It is like the elephant which the Arab had presented to him."

It is stated that the homes of fifteen hundred members of the Presbyterian churches in Chicago were destroyed in the late fire. Out of one congregation of over eight hundred all except five families were burned out of their homes, and but one business man in the congregation had either store or office left in which to transact business.

The following story comes from Peoria, Ill.: Franz Boriet, of that town, was lately returning from his work, when he was attacked by a wild steer, which knocked him down and pinned him to the ground, one horn passing each side of his body. Boriet, though at a disadvantage, caught the animal's horns and by a quick movement twisted his neck and threw him, when he jumped up and ran, but was not pursued. The next morning the steer was found lying where he fell with his neck broken.

The Berlin *Cross Gazette* publishes a communication from an eminent jurist, in which the ground is taken that the constitution of the German Empire confers the right to vote on every woman over twenty-one years of age.

In taking down a beautiful painted canvass ceiling at All Souls College, Oxford, England, recently, fifteen ancient paintings were discovered at ached to the roof, where they had been, unknown to any one, for two centuries.

A genuine Ku-Klux disguise, captured in North Carolina, and sent by the captors to President Grant, is among the curiosities now on exhibition at the dumb animals' fair in Boston. It is described as a horrible looking affair, made of black calico with a white border and white round spots running up and down the front. The covering for the head also shambers to of the same material, and runs up into a high peak. There are two long white, projecting horns, holes for the eyes, a long, red, artificial nose, and earlets also bordered with red.

The latest confidence dodge is that of a fellow at Galena, Illinois, who confessed circumstantially to the murder of a Boston policeman, and got himself arrested in the hope of securing a free ride to the "hub." The Galena officers telegraphed to Boston, however, and found that no such crime had been committed, and so the game didn't work.

The Communist refugees in England have got the manservos into trouble. During the dangerous period of the illness of the Prince of Wales some of them saw in his sickness the evidence that the Almighty had doomed monarchy in Eng and, and openly stated the belief. This is considered an abuse of hospitality, and the Secretary of State is most likely requested Parliament to give him authority to expel the leaders of the exiled "reds." As a precautionary measure the residence of Carl Marx has already been placed under police surveillance.

A colored man at Canton, Miss, lately wished to kill a sheep, but not understanding the process to a nicety, held the animal upon the railroad track for the locomotive to slaughter. The sheep escaped with a broken leg, but the dead body that was picked up immediately after had on black wool and wasn't good mutton either.

Recent Cuban advices are eloquent in disproving the Spanish assertion that the rebellion is at an end. At Camagney particularly, notwithstanding the important reinforcements received by the Spaniards, these are compelled to maintain themselves on the defensive. The insurgents are so strong in that city that they have captured the best horses of the Spanish squadron of cavalry, *la Reina*.

Sir Richard Wallace has presented to the British National Gallery the picture by Terberg of "The Congress of Munster," bought by Sir Richard at Prince Pourtales' sale for £7,350. Sir W. Boxwell offered £7,000 at the sale, and then retired from the bidding. The *Times*, in announcing Sir Richard Wallace's generous gift, says: "As an example of minute, delicate, and at the same time powerful portrait painting, this is undoubtedly the most remarkable picture in the world. Every one of the the many heads is a study in itself, in which the individuality of character is brought out with astonishing force and precision."

English dry goods merchants are certainly enterprising in their business matters. When the illness of the Prince of Wales became alarming, these merchants dispatched orders to Paris, under which they secured the entire stock of black gloves, black artificial flowers, black crapes, black feathers, black ornaments, which were held in stock by the French shopkeepers. And now the provoking Prince is convalescing.

The State Railroad Commissioner of Ohio thinks that trains at present run too fast, and asks the Legislature to limit the speed of passenger roads, to twenty-five miles an hour, exclusive of stops.

The right of a child to prosecute his parents for whipping him, and to recover damages in a court of law, is in process of demonstration in Cincinnati. The complainant, who is an infant in the eyes of the law, sues his father, who is a butcher by trade, for his parents for the abuse and ill-treatment he has suffered at their hands since 1868. The parents have refused to offer to compromise.

The trustees of the New York State Library have just received from Emperor William of Germany a set of 33 of the works of Frederick the Great, edited by special command of Emperor William.

The captain of the schooner Ella Holsden, which arrived at New York last Saturday, reports seeing in the Gulf stream, abreast of Cape Hatteras, a rail-car, painted yellow, and lettered in black.

Every newsdealer in Syracuse, New York, has been indicted and summoned to appear for trial for exposing for sale and selling obscene pictorial papers. This is a step in the right direction, and it is to be regretted that a similar policy is not adopted by the press in reference to the vending of indecent literature.

Major Medill, of Chicago, has received a letter from the Manager of the London *Graphic*, apprising him that the artists of that paper had proposed an allegorical picture commemorative of the late disaster and the grand sympathetic outbreak of the English people on the occasion. The necessary amount has been subscribed by the friends and the proprietors of the *Graphic*, and the commission for the painting placed in the hands of the Royal Academy of the Royal Academy, who has put aside a great work in order to carry out the plan at once, so that a black and white cartoon of the memorial picture may be exhibited at the May opening of the Royal Academy.

That grave problem as to who is entitled to the $25 which Alexis left for the hero who stopped the runaway horses in Philadelphia has at last been solved. The knotty question was referred to a committee of three, and their sleepless nights in endeavoring to find the truth, "although it was found in the center." After examining a mountain of affidavits and filling several large folios with evidence of the claimants, they at last, upon the suggestion of the chairman, tossed up for it, and the money was given to Mr. Charles J. Wolbert.

The King of Italy has recently exercised a royal prerogative and has created twenty-five new Senators. Among them are several prominent generals, admirals, university professors, some members of the Lower House, and Signor Carlo Bombrino, the President of the National Bank. The Italian Senate is more an academic body than an executive one, and does not figure very conspicuously in the Government of the State. The appointment is an indefensive body, and is a circle of honor reserved for those who have served the State with distinction.

The following anecdote was told with great glee at a dinner by William IV, then Duke of Clarence: "I was riding in the park the other day, on the road between Teddington and Hampton-wick, when I was overtaken by a butcher's boy on horseback, with a tray of meat under his arm. 'Nice pony, that of yours, old gentleman,' said he. 'Pretty fair,' was my reply. 'Mine's a good 'un, too,' rejoined he, 'and I'll trot you to Hampton-wick for a pot of beer.' I declined the match, but the butcher's boy, as he stuck his single spur into his horse's side, exclaimed with a look of contempt, 'I thought you were only a muff!'"

At the late Plymouth church picnic, Mr. Beecher was asked why he did not dance. "There's but one reason," he replied—"I don't know how. The only dancing I ever did, was when my father furnished the music, and used me as a fiddle. I took all the steps then."

The sanitary condition of Rome at the present time does not seem to be in a very favorable condition. A correspondent states that in the third week of November the number of deaths was 260, and of births 144. Of the deaths 33 were from small-pox and the same number by pulmonary and 27 by pulmonary affections. The greatest mortality was among persons between twenty and thirty years of age.

Telegraphic communication has been established between St. Petersburg and Japan, by the cable laid in the sea of Japan between Russia Japan and the island empire. A dispatch which left Nagasaki fifty-five minutes after midnight reached St. Petersburg at eleven o'clock in the morning, having traversed Northern Asia and Russia, a distance of five thousand miles by the route of the telegraph.

The Jacksonville (Fla.) *Courier* of a recent date reports that Judge T. T. Long, of the Circuit Court of that State, has been indicted by the grand jury of the United States Circuit Court, now in session in that city, on the charge of instituting a wilful and malicious interfering with United States officers in the discharge of their duties. Judge Long has given bonds in the sum of $6,000 to answer the charges.

The misunderstanding between Prussia and Brazil seems to have had its origin in a tavern brawl. It appears seven or eight months ago there was a quarrel with some Brazilians in a coffee house at Rio Janeiro. A fight ensued, and the Prussians having ejected their opponents, smashed everything in the house. The police arrived, but refused to assisted the officers and more fighting took place. Several wounds were received on both sides, and finally the foreigners were arrested and thrown into prison. Among the captives was a near relative of Bismarck's. As soon as news of the affair reached Berlin a diplomatic correspondence was entered into, and the prisoners have been released. It is reported a German squadron is under orders to fit out at Kiel and sail for Brazilian waters, and serious complications may arise from this foolish escapade.

The Fort Wayne woman who sued her husband for pay for fourteen years of service in his household, on the ground that there was a flaw in the marriage ceremony, has been awarded $1,168 by the Allen Circuit Court.

Among the recent proofs of the progress which Japan is making, may be mentioned the establishment of cotton mills at Nagaski and Kagosuna. Good cotton is grown in Baushin, Setsu, Yamaskin, Keovachi, Yamate, Idyumi and Najas. A duty or tax is paid to the central government on about 2,140,000 pounds per annum from those provinces alone.

Air as a motive power has been successfully applied at Brunswick, Maine. The air is compressed by a water wheel, and connected through a two-and-a-half inch pipe under ground three-quarters of a mile, and furnishes the motive agent for an engine at the railway station, used for sawing wood.

Mr. P. S. Gilmore has made arrangements with the American Corrugated Iron Company for building the Coliseum, at Boston, in which the World's Peace Jubilee is to be held next June or July. It will be a permanent structure, and a building of immense proportions.

An elderly gentleman was recently "conndienced" on a train running into Keokuk, by sharpers, who induced him to buy a draft (worthless) on Buffalo for $157 40, he paying them two $100 bills, and they paying him $42 60 as change. The conductor on the train took the first opportunity to quietly suggest to the innocent old gentleman that he was afraid the draft was a fraud. "Well," was the bland response of the imperturbable greeny, "it is any bigger fraud than my two one hundred dollar notes were, then I am not forty-three dollars ahead—which I think I am. I am not in the habit of dealing in counterfeit currency, but I always keep a little of that sort of stuff about me for the benefit of that sort of customers."

A bank case which has excited much interest in Vermont has just been decided. About two years ago the First National Bank of Bennington was robbed while a depositor had bonds on deposit as collateral security for notes. These bonds, among others, were stolen, and the depositor sued the bank for their recovery in damages. The result is a verdict in his favor to the amount of $4,900 and costs.

Archdeacon Dennison, a brother of the Speaker of the House of Commons, has removed his name from the books of the University of Oxford, on the ground that it has became "an irreligious body."

It is said that Mr. Reverdy Johnson's opportunities to observe the South Carolina gentleman in his native lair have been remarkably good since he went there, and such observation, together with the facts about the Ku-Klux outrages which have come to his knowledge, through his clients, have apparently so disgusted him that he has very little heart in his duty of protecting them from the punishment he well knows they so richly deserve.

The New York *Sun* learns from a gentleman from Southern Texas that President Juarez has enlisted fifteen hundred fighting men in that country and in Arkansas; that the men have crossed the Rio Grande, and are now in active service. Their officers were formerly in the Confederate army, and the men are said to be armed with Winchester rifles.

## PERSONAL.

A very pleasant incident in connection with the visit of the Grand Duke of Russia to the Massachusetts Historical Society rooms is reported by the Boston *Traveller*. Just as the party were leaving, Admiral Pelsset took from his pocket a small envelope and handed it to Mr Winthrop, saying, that perhaps the contents would be of sufficient interest to entitle them to a place in the society's cabinet. On opening the envelope, three oak leaves and a little twig were found. These were accompanied by a statement in Russian, that the leaves and twig were taken from an oak tree in St. Petersburg, which grew from an acorn planted by the Emperor of Russia himself, received from Mr. George Sumner, of this city, which he took from a tree which shades Washington's tomb, at Mt. Vernon.

Joaquin Miller has given up his contemplated lecture in Oregon, and a few days ago took the steamer from his Portland home for Southern California, Arizona, Lower California, Mexico and Central America. His trip will probably be developed in South America, thence homeward in a year or two when he proposes publishing the practical results of his wanderings in a companion volume to the "Songs of the Sierras." Query—Had the fact that his wife has entered the lecture field in the same State anything to do with this sudden abandonment of his intentions?

Peter B. Sweeny has left New York. His friends say he has gone to superintend repairs on his country house. It looks as if he was afraid to stay in town.

Joseph Howard, Jr., editor of the Tammany *Star*, it is stated, has been indicted by the Grand Jury for Grand Larceny, in stealing $125,000 from the City Treasury on a bogus claim for advertising. This is not Joe's first adventure in the "bogus" business.

Olive Logan was married to Wirt Sykes on Tuesday morning, and lectured at Warwick, N. Y., on Tuesday night. She will spend her honey-moon lecturing.

Mr. Bergh now claims that it is cruel that animals should be killed in sight of each other. He says it is painful to dumb creatures to see their fellows slaughtered.

Robert Branson, a great-grandson of Brant, the famous Indian chieftain, and his wife, aged respectively ninety-one and eighty-seven years, are living in Detroit, Mich.

The wife of the Rev. C. G. Ames, of San Jose, Cal., who has become so well and favorably known during his recent visit to Washington, has in his absence supplied his pulpit and attended to all her household affairs besides.

Mrs. Jane McKeever, sister of the late Bishop Campbell, and the founder of Pleasant Hill Seminary in Washington county, Pa., died on the 10th inst., in the seventy-fifth year of her age.

Don Michael Angelo Caetoni, the blind Duke of Sermonte, can repeat Dante's works from beginning to end, and lectures on them to a select circle in Rome.

Empress Eugenie is represented as having grown gray and wrinkled under her late reverses, with hardly a vestige of her former beauty.

Mr. Henry T. Tuckerman, the well known author and critic, died on Sunday last at his residence in this relative in New York, of pleurisy. The deceased was born in Boston on April 20th, 1813, and was therefore in his fifty-ninth year. His death will be recognized as a loss to the letters, society and innumerable objects of public interest.

Mr. Charles Mathew, the last surviving brother of the Rev. Father Mathew, the Irish apostle of temperance, is just dead.

Among the recent promotions in the French Legion of Honor is named Dr. Thomas W. Evans, who is advanced to Commander. Dr. Evans is an American, and he receives the honor for services rendered as "Director of the American Ambulance" during the Franco-Prussian war. The doctor is the first foreigner who has obtained the rank of Commander.

By the recent suicide of Count Girgenti, the infanta Isabella, daughter of the ex-Queen of Spain, has been made a widow at twenty. She has an income of about $60,000 a year, which, however, is much to be pitied as Louis Napoleon and his spouse.

The oldest woman is now claimed by New Hampshire. Her name is Mrs. Dorcus Hice, her residence, Suffield. She is in her 122d year, and she eats (so they say) 102 buckwheat cakes daily.

Mr. James Parton, in addition to re-appearing in *The Atlantic* in his biographical role, has prepared a new lecture, "Who and How to Marry." The lecture was delivered for the first time on Monday night.

new book called "Caste and Sex," being a collection of articles on the subjects named in the title, which she has previously had published in the *Independent*. Mr. Ames is now in Washington writing letters from the capital to the *Independent* and Brooklyn *Union*.

## CINCINNATI AND COAL.

### The Kanawha the Future Source of Supply.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, who has just returned from a trip through the West Virginia coal fields and the Kanawha valley, on the Ohio Railroad, writes to that paper, and after discussing the price, supply and transportation of coal, so far as this city is concerned, concludes by stating that Cincinnati must look for her future supply of fuel to the Kanawha Valley.

The writer starts out by saying that fifteen years ago coal sold in this city for five cents per bushel delivered, and that now it commands ten cents. This advance must either be attributed to the increased mining, in the appreciated value of unmined lands, or else it must be making the fortunes of mine proprietors. It does not go into the profits of mining, but the great advance is owing to the value of the coal *in the land*, and proves the fact, that in the present and prospective value of coal as an investment.

Says the writer:

"The demand has doubled prices, and yet the supply has not responded sufficiently to check the rising rate; and we may ask, when the demand doubled in fifteen years, how long will it take to expect the next ten years will show different results from the last? Demand (consumption) is population. Population doubles again in fifteen years; double again in a given time, and continue to double in the same ratio for half a century to come, then, with the demand, we must double the supply and continue the multiplication until the present supply fields (Pittsburgh) meet this 'quick, increasing demand,' without advancing prices? They should not. They should not advance in price to produce largely; but if added to double within ten years, would certainly double prices, and would fail to meet the demand in the next fifteen years at any price. They have not the stock on hand; all the section bearing first-class coal, known as 'Youghiogheny and No. 1 Pittsburgh,' has been worked over, or is now worked; large inroads have been made on all coal contiguous to railroads, prices have advanced within thirty years from fifty to one thousand per cent, and the great staple already enters largely into all the calculations of manufacturing operations, and the word 'unlimited' no longer applies to this coal supply."

This being the case, he argues, the people of the Ohio and Mississippi Valley must look elsewhere for fuel, and the Kanawha Valley will provide it for them. There, says he, we find the best coal in the world for all purposes, and we may say in unlimited quantities. This coal for gas, steamboating, manufacturing iron (without coking), splint coal and cannel; and of the latter Professor Charles M. Cresson, of Philadelphia, writes: "It is the best that I have ever examined, excepting only the Boghead." The aggregate thickness of the seams above river level is forty feet. Emigration had passed over this country; speculation had not found it.

An acre of Kanawha land contains one million, seven hundred and fifty thousand (1,750,000) bushels of coal, and is valued at less than one hundred dollars per acre. An acre of Pittsburgh coal contains three hundred and seventy-eight thousand bushels, and is held at over one thousand dollars an acre. A calculation will show the present relative value of coal in each section.

By the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad and Ohio river, Kanawha mines can deliver coal in this market at nine cents per bushel. Pittsburgh claims fourteen cents as only a fair and profitable price.

## "PECULIAR PEOPLE."

### Shipwrecked Among Savages—Polygamy in the Arctic Regions.

Two or three years ago an American vessel, the *Japan*, was shipwrecked on the extreme northern coast of Siberia, inhabited by a mixed race supposed to have originated from a mingling of the Russian and Tartar tribes, among whom the crew spent a considerable time. Ultimately they were taken off by a Russian and Scotch whaler, and carried to the Sandwich Islands with the crews of the ships abandoned in the Arctic Ocean. The description which they give of the customs and modes of life of their singular entertainers ought to have an especial interest for those who imagine polygamy to be exactly what the whole world is ripe for the immediate establishment of a universal Republic. The staple food of these people consists of raw whale and walrus in a state of decomposition, which is cruse to the moderate love of tobacco, which, in common with alcohol, they procure from occasional traders, that children of both sexes, only a few months old, may be seen engaged in chewing the weed. In the summer months they live in huts made of walrus hide, and in winter in holes excavated in the mountain sides, daylight being admitted through holes cut in the rock, which are stopped up with ice instead of glass. During the summer the men employ them selves in hunting the whale and walrus in canoes while the women are kept busy in gathering grass and hurbs for edible and other purposes. In winter the chief objects of pursuit are deer, bears and foxes. The walrus, however, is their staple reliance; the blubber being placed in the ground and allowed to soon reduces it to a state of putrefaction, in which condition it is esteemed as a great luxury, while the hide furnishes material for huts, canvas, clothing, fishing nets and pretty nearly everything else. Polygamy is indulged in to an unlimited extent, each man having as many wives as he can keep; the women, if they do not suit the tastes or meet the expectation of the husband, being discarded and sent back to their parents after a few weeks' probation, while in case of infidelity to their liege lords a portion of the offender's nose is forfeited for the crime. The marines say, very naively, that they met with many victims of this rigorous law during their sojourn among them.

One of the editors of a minor Pa

# EUROPE.

## BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

**Minister Schenck's Difficulty — American Journalistic Enterprise.**

LONDON, December 20.—Queen Victoria has received the congratulations of the President of the French Republic on the recovery of the Prince of Wales from dangerous illness.

The English journals, while expressing no opinion as to the merits in the case, regret the difficulty into which American Minister Schenck has fallen, and cite as precedents the cases of other ambassadors, notably that of the Duke Saldanha, who, while Minister of Portugal to a foreign power, was permitted to engage in private speculations.

The London journals express admiration at the manner in which the American press have been supplied from day to day and hour to hour with news of the illness of the Prince of Wales. They notice that the bulletins issued at Sandringham at five and six o'clock in the morning are published in additions of American papers printed before daylight, and that noon and six o'clock P. M. bulletins appear in the evening papers. All concur in the opinion that the rapidity with which these dispatches are forwarded, their general accuracy and the complete history they give of the Prince's illness, make altogether one of the marvels of journalism.

**Ministerial Crisis in Spain.**

MADRID, December 20.—The members of the Malcampo Ministry have tendered their resignations to the King. It was at first reported that Senor Zorilla would undertake the formation of a new Ministry, but it is now known that the task has been entrusted to Senor Sagasta. The latter had not up to noon to-day, succeeded in completing the Cabinet. He offered four portfolios to Zorilla and his supporters, but they were refused. The crisis continues.

**Religious Equality in France—Trial of Communists.**

PARIS, December 20.—A deputation of French Protestants had an interview to-day with Thiers, who received them with affability, and promised that religious equality should be maintained.

The work of trying the Communist prisoners is progressing as fast as possible, and additional courts are to be created the more rapidly to dispose of the remaining cases. Up to the present day 9,378 persons have been tried. Of these 2,022 have been convicted and sentenced, and 1,255 have been discharged.

**The Markets.**

LONDON, December 20.—Consols 92¼ money; 92¼@92⅝ account. U. S.—5-20s, '62, 92¼; 5-20s, '65, 93⅛; 5-20s, '67, 93⅜; 10-40s, 91¾.

PARIS, December 20.—Rentes 58f. 25c.

LIVERPOOL, December 20.—Cotton 9⅝ heavy; middling upland 9¾@10d; red western wheat 11s 6d; flour 25s@28s.

# A HYENA LOOSE.

**He Attacks and Seriously Maims a Leopard—Attacks an Elephant—Kills a Camel, and is Captured.**

[From the New York Express.]

It is only a few days ago that we recorded the visit of Mr. Bergh, to Barnum's show in Third avenue, where he demanded that a hyena, whose viciousness he was told, was beyond a doubt, should be unchained and allowed to roam its den. The agent ordered this demand to be carried out, although, in his own mind, he was confident that the bars of the cage would not keep the hyena a prisoner. Friday evening his shrewd prophecy was verified, and the hyena by some means escaped from its den, and immediately commenced to ravage everything that came in his way. A leopard was in the adjoining cage, and, with one desperate effort, the hyena tore down the partition and was soon engaged in a fierce conflict with the spotted fellows. After cowing and seriously injuring the poor animal, he next attacked an elephant, but escaped before any harm was done. Nothing daunted, however, it next visited the animals' nature's enemy, the camel, which animal it left in such a deplorable state that it has since had to be killed. The affair caused great consternation among Barnum's employees, but the beast was finally captured with a lasso by a Digger Indian, and is now once more chained down to his den. The leopard is valued at $5,000.

The following statistics, taken from a Japanese letter, are interesting: The Prince of Kanga, Maeda Kagero Kami, has an annual revenue of 1,992,700 kokous of rice, estimated in sterling to be equal to $8,848,640; the Prince of Owari, Tokunga Owari Dono, is estimated to have an annual revenue of 620,000 kokous of rice, estimated in sterling at $1,014,400; the Prince of Kaga, Tokunga, Kitoco, or Kaiou, is estimated to have 550,000 kokous of rice, or sterling, $1,175,000; the Prince of Aki, Matsudaira Mino No Kami, is supposed an revenue of 426,000 kokous, or $1,395,200 sterling; while the Prince of Mito, Tokungawa Mito Dono, has one of 350,000 kokous, or $1,120,000 sterling. These proposition princes thus control, unitedly, an annual income of $10,154,240.

It is predicted that cattle in Texas will die by thousands in consequence of the severe and early winter. The *State Journal* computes that the West Texas cattle interest has lost in stock, from the late cold snap, over four hundred thousand dollars worth. By-and-by our stock raisers will comprehend that it is cheaper, as well as wiser, to provide some shelter and food for their cattle during the winter months, rather than to permit decimation by cold, starvation and exposure.

# OUR HOLIDAY DINNERS.

**Four Hundred Tons of Game and Poultry Consumed Here in a Single Season—What it Costs, &c.**

The poultry trade is just now at its height, and a few facts in regard to the amount of poultry and game handled in this market, the sources of supply, the prices obtained, etc., may prove interesting. The season opens just before Thanksgiving, when every family who can possibly afford the expense—and there are few who cannot—partakes of either turkey, chicken, duck or goose. The great demand at Thanksgiving is for turkey, and of the thirty-eight or forty thousand families supplied directly from the market, it is fair to presume that two-thirds eat turkey on that day. After the Thanksgiving supply has been run out, and the December frosts set in, the season begins to open up in earnest.

**WHERE THE SUPPLIES COME FROM.**

The poultry consumed in this market comes principally from Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio. Large quantities are shipped from Westmoreland, Washington, Greene, Butter, Beaver, Lawrence, Armstrong, and adjoining counties, as well as from the interior towns of Eastern Ohio. Every town or village has its poultry peddler, a man who scours the country round and collects such fowls as he can purchase from the farmers. He usually makes two or more trips per week, and leaves going until he has cleaned out his section entirely. He either ships directly to the wholesale dealers here, or supplies a number of the retail grocers. The poultry nearly all comes to market dressed, and fully one-half of all the receipts are by Adams Express, as shippers prefer paying high rates to running risks of loss by delay. The rivers when open bring large supplies, but the principal supply is by rail. There are limited receipts by wagon from the adjoining townships, but the supply from this source usually goes to the city retail markets, or to the retail grocers.

The supply this season, thus far, has been full and ample. Last week the market was glutted, and the price went down as low as ten cents per pound. This week the receipts have been light, and prices have ruled high. The receipts for the week ending to-day will foot up about 100 tons, and the receipts for the month will reach 400 tons. The receipts for the season will reach 1,000 tons, and the sales foot up the largest aggregate ever recorded for a single week, in this or any other American market, viz., upwards of 4,000,000 lbs, including 2,-000,000 lbs of domestic. In fact almost the entire supply of some grades of the latter has changed hands during the last few days. At the close the speculative feeling is very strong, and for desirable lots all around are held at high figures. The week's sales are freely offered, making a general advance of 2@5c since the beginning of the month.

Such activity at this season of the year is quite exceptional, as December is usually a dull period in the wool trade, and the unfavorable weather of the past week, and is often marked by a little softening in prices. But this movement has been foreshadowed for some time past, and the wool men were very confident parties were taken wholly by surprise. This year it was well known that the stocks of domestic wool was short in all the markets of the country, and that in the natural course of events, the assortment of descriptions would be very poor before the end of the first of January, while the stock of all grades would probably be exhausted a month or two before another crop could be available.

Moreover, every dispatch from abroad has reflected it more or less strongly, and every steamer from the foreign markets, which might have any influence in checking the upward tendency of values at home. Under these circumstances it became evident that early buyers would fare the best, both on the score of prices and selections, and hence there has been a general disposition among buyers, for some weeks past, not only to anticipate their usual January purchases, but also to secure stocks sufficient to bridge over to the next wool season.

But each one had the purpose to himself, intending to steal a march upon the others, and thus avoid competition. The sudden rise in the gold market last week excited suspicion and increased the desire to operate; and this week brought in the whole crowd, but only a moderate amount of wool was sold, but also started up the dealers who were short on some grades, and the result was a general rush and competition with the former—the whole affair finally culminating in a grand speculative movement.

Probably not more than half (some say not as less) the amount of domestic wool sold in this market during the present week, has changed hands at actual consumers. But enough has been taken by manufacturers, added to their purchases of foreign, to keep the mills running from four to six months time to come. This may have the effect to slacken the usually active trade during the month of January, and perhaps to a little reaction in prices after the flurry is over.

But, in view of the meager supply now left in the hands of the trade, which is less than may sometimes be found three or four months later in the season, many are of the opinion that the late advances will be fully sustained. It certainly must be, unless these parties are going to have their fingers in pie lots, at these extreme figures, on speculation, have made a miscalculation as to their prospects of reselling at a profit.

The greatest excitement and advance have been in the medium and extra grades of fleece, which are very scarce, and those grades of delaine wool best adapted to substitution for the former. The market has been pretty thoroughly cleaned out of these descriptions, and such small lots as may now remain in the hands of the trade, particularly Michigan fleeces, are held above the present reach of consumers.—*Commercial Bulletin.*

PHILADELPHIA.

December 16.—There has been more doing, and prices are looking up. Sales of 250,000 lbs, in lots, including Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia superfine Saxony fleece at 67@68c; full blood Merino fleece 65@66c; three-quarter blood Merino fleece 63@65c; half blood fleece 65@67c; quarter blood fleece 64@66c; common fleece 62c. Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana and New York—Full blood Merino fleece 61 @63c; three-quarter blood Merino 61@63c; half blood fleece 63@66c; quarter blood fleece 63@66c; common fleece 59@62c. Combing and Delaines—Washed fleece 73@75c; unwashed fleece, combing and de aine, 59@65c; Canada fleece 72@75c. Tub-washed—Choice selected 75@80c; fair 72@74c; inferior and unhusky 68@70c. Domestic pulled—City Merino 60@62c; city No 1, 61@63c; western 59@ 62c.—*North American.*

NEW YORK.

December 12.—There continues an active demand for all grades of domestic fleece, but the advanced rates have had a tendency to check transactions. Holders, however, remain firm, and full prices are obtained on all parcels disposed of; the market has been less active than last week, but closes with considerable attention, and prices steady. There have been considerable sales of Australian recently at 54½@55c for New Zealand, but it is understood that the invoices now on the way can hardly be laid down here at those figures and afford any profit to importers. The sales are 45,000 lbs; X and XX Ohio fleece at 63@65c; 6,000 lbs mixed do, 64c; 5,000 lbs super pulled at 60c; 5,000 lbs extra do at 67½c; 10,000 lbs western Texas, 33c; 8,000 lbs spring clip California, 43c; 100 bales fine East India, 50@55c; 40,000 lbs Montevideo, 42@43c; 50 bales Buenos Ayres Mestiza pulled; 60,000 lbs unwashed fleeces, 26,000 lbs Texas, 30,000 lbs Delaine, 16,000 lbs super pulled, 40,000 lbs Georgia, 6,000 lbs fine pulled California, 160,000 lbs Cape, 200 bales Donskoi, 18,000 lbs Rio Grande and 7,000 lbs Montevideo lambs on private terms.—*Shipping List.*

**Baltimore Coffee Market.**

December 16.—Since the date of our last review Rio advices per telegram to the 21st November have been received. The news is favorably interpreted by holders, and has imparted a firmer and more cheerful tone to that market, which previous to its receipt was extremely dull and somewhat heavy. There has, however, been no decided revival of trade, though we remark a better inquiry to-day than for some time past, and we have only to report in the week sales of some 3,000 to 4,000 bags Rio from second hands at prices within our range of quotations. The market at the close may be written strong at our figures below, though before the receipt of the Rio news, holders, in order to effect as es would have been obliged to have made a concession of ¼ to ⅜c from these figures. We quote Rio, in bond, at 15¾@ 15¾ cents for fair cargoes, 16@16¼ cents for good do, and 16¾@17c for prime do., all gold, though at present quotations must be considered nominal. The receipts this week have been 5,000 bags Rio per ship "Lady Agnes," 5,047 bags do per "Aquidneck," and the stock to-day is 57,000 bags, against 18,000 bags. We give below the Rio advices:

[JOSEPH M. WRIGHT & CO.'S TELEGRAM.]

RIO JANEIRO, November 22, 1871.

Purchases Coffee for United States since

November 6..... 71,500 bags
Cleared for United States, Atlantic ports.. 71,000 bags
Cleared for United States, Gulf ports..... 22,000 bags
Loading for United States..... 28,500 bags
Stock on hand..... 110,000 bags
Price of American lots..... 8?99

Exchange 24¾d.
Flour—Richmond, 23?000
Flour—Baltimore, 21?000
—*American.*

## THE HOP MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA.

December 16.—There is a steady inquiry from brewers, and fair prices are bid for prime grades of both 1870 and 1871, with perhaps a slightly easier feeling in the poorer qualities. Bavarians have sold at 72c, for quality hardly considered choice on the Continent. We quote:

1871.....at 40@70c
1870, fair to prime..... 15@30c
Low grades..... 5@10c

NEW YORK.

December 16.—There is a good demand for the better qualities of 1871's, which are very scarce. The sales are about 130 bales at from 60@70c, as to quality. Older grades are held above the views of consumers. The following is from the circular of 14th inst. of Mr. Emmet Wells:

| | Bales. |
|---|---|
| Receipts for the week | 516 |
| Receipts corresponding week last year | 2,079 |
| Receipts corresponding week 1869 | 3,791 |
| Total receipts since September 1st | 19,756 |
| Total receipts corresponding season last year | 30,995 |
| Export crop for week | 2 |
| Total exports since September 1 | 1,926 |
| Total imports since September 1 | 70 |
| Total consumption since September 1 | 2,136 |

Our London correspondent favors us with the following under date December 2: "Extreme dullness has characterized our market this week, and all classes of hops can be bought on easier terms, though no actual decline has taken place as yet is exhibited on any description of hops, and I do not see any prospect of any material change until the turn of the year. Foreign markets show no change."—*Commercial List.*

## COAL MARKETS.

LOUISVILLE.

December 12.—The supply is said to be short, and some of the dealers to-day advanced Pittsburgh to 28c; others are selling and will continue to sell here at 25c per bushel, but the impression is general that the supply will be run out, and quotations are discontinued. Kentucky coal is scarce, but the supply is said to be fortunately behind the demand. The quotations to-day are as follows—delivered; Pittsburgh, 28c; Kentucky, 25c.

December 16.—The market is unchanged to-day. Dealers quote as follows, delivered; Beaver Dam and Rendor (Ky.) coal, 25c; Pittsburgh, 28c; Anthracite, egg size, $12 ? ton; nut size, $11.

December 19.—The market is unchanged to-day. Dealers quote as follows, delivered: Beaver Dam and Rendor (Ky.) coal, 25c; Pittsburgh, 28c; Anthracite, egg size, $12 ? tons nut size, $11.

CINCINNATI.

December 16.—There is a brisk retail demand, and many of the dealers are unable to keep up with their orders. The sales to-day were mainly at 28c ? bush for Pittsburgh, and 22@25c for Ohio river, delivered to consumers. Some sales at 30c.

December 19.—The demand from the retail trade has been quite active, and prices are higher, with a pretty rapid reduction in the supply.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Youghiogheny, delivered, ? bush | | | 28c |
| Ohio river, delivered, ? bush | | | 24c |
| Cannel, delivered, ? bush | | | 28@30c |
| Anthracite, ? ton | | | $11 00 |
| Gas Coke, at yards, ? bush | | | 12c |
| Gas Coke, delivered, ? bush | | | 20c |
| Hard Foundery, delivered, ? bush | | | 16@17c |

**Receipts of Iron at St. Louis**

For the week ending Saturday, December 16, 1871.

| | Ore, Tons. | Pig Iron, Tons. |
|---|---|---|
| St. Louis and Iron Mountain | 2,952 | 800 |
| Atlantic and Pacific | 180 | 520 |
| Ohio and Mississippi | | 100 |
| Chicago, Alton and St. Louis | 40 | 40 |
| St. L., Van., T. H. and Ind | | 40 |
| Rockford and Rock Island | | 20 |
| St. L., Bl and Southern Illinois | | 150 |
| Total tons | 2,972 | 1,710 |

# RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

**A Couple of Passenger Cars Overturned—The Result.**

An accident of more than usual proportion occurred on the Connellsville Railroad, Wednesday morning at 10:25. About one mile west of West Newton the morning mail train east, from this city, had reached the point referred to, when it encountered a broken rail. The engine and tender jumped the track and a couple of passenger cars attached were tumbled over the embankment.

An official dispatch from Dr. J. A. Phillips gives the number injured and the extent of their injuries. It is as follows: Mrs. James Dixon, West Newton, fractured rib; J. H. Bowman, slightly injured, suffering from exposure; Riley M. Jarvis, slightly injured, Brownsville, Pa.; John Mailphand, Connellsville, Pa., slightly injured; W. J. Mansfield, brakeman, contusion of the ribs; not serious; Samuel K. White, Connellsville, Pa., simple fracture of the bone of forearm; Daniel Brown, Brownstown, laceration of scalp, not dangerous; Mrs. Maggie Swope, Tyrone Mines, Pa., slightly injured; W. N. Halsing, slightly injured, two children, one with fractured collar bone, other wounded in shoulder; John Mahan, Sand Patch, fracture of collar bone.

The injured were all conveyed to Rohland's hotel, in West Newton, where Dr. Vankirk assisted Dr. Phillips in administering to their needs. The conductor of the train, Mr. Phillips, was slightly injured about the head and lips. The bottom was knocked out of one of the cars, while the other was not damaged to any extent.

# A SAD CASE.

**Death from Intemperance.**

Tuesday afternoon Coroner West held an inquest on the remains of an unknown man found dead on a stack pile, just opposite the railroad station at Mansfield. The deceased had been seen during the day in company with another man, in the borough. They were both under the influence of liquor, and appeared to be out of funds. Dr. Wallace, who examined the remains, gave it as his opinion that the deceased had visited the stack pile to warm himself, had fallen asleep there, and by inhalation of the poisonous gas arising from the heated ashes had met his death. A verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered. The man who had been in company with the deceased was even subsequently traveling around the village without any hat, and having his clothes burned in several places. Deceased was about thirty years of age, five feet five inches high, dark complexion and small goatee, and was dressed in dark clothes. He has been recognized as a roving mill hand, but his name has not been ascertained last night. The body was taken in charge by Mr. Bienhaur, the undertaker, on Giant street, for identification.

## WOOL MARKETS.

LONDON.

December 16.—The wool market has been greatly excited during the past week, and with an active demand from the home consumers and the trade, the sales foot up the largest aggregate ever recorded for a single week, in this or any other American market, viz., upwards of 4,000,000 lbs, including 2,-000,000 lbs of domestic. In fact almost the entire supply of some grades of the latter has changed hands during the last few days. At the close the speculative feeling is very strong, and for desirable lots all around are held at high figures. The week's sales are freely offered, making a general advance of 2@5c since the beginning of the month.

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NEW YORK.

December 12.—There continues an active demand for all grades of domestic fleece, but the advanced rates have had a tendency to check transactions. Holders, however, remain firm, and full prices are obtained on all parcels disposed of; the market has been less active than last week, but closes with considerable attention, and prices steady. There have been considerable sales of Australian recently at 54½@55c for New Zealand, but it is understood that the invoices now on the way can hardly be laid down here at those figures and afford any profit to importers. The sales are 45,000 lbs; X and XX Ohio fleece at 63@65c; 6,000 lbs mixed do, 64c; 5,000 lbs super pulled at 60c; 5,000 lbs extra do at 67½c; 10,000 lbs western Texas, 33c; 8,000 lbs spring clip California, 43c; 100 bales fine East India, 50@55c; 40,000 lbs Montevideo, 42@43c; 50 bales Buenos Ayres Mestiza pulled; 60,000 lbs unwashed fleeces, 26,000 lbs Texas, 30,000 lbs Delaine, 16,000 lbs super pulled, 40,000 lbs Georgia, 6,000 lbs fine pulled California, 160,000 lbs Cape, 200 bales Donskoi, 18,000 lbs Rio Grande and 7,000 lbs Montevideo lambs on private terms.—*Shipping List.*

**Baltimore Coffee Market.**

December 16.—Since the date of our last review Rio advices per telegram to the 21st November have been received. The news is favorably interpreted by holders, and has imparted a firmer and more cheerful tone to that market, which previous to its receipt was extremely dull and somewhat heavy. There has, however, been no decided revival of trade, though we remark a better inquiry to-day than for some time past, and we have only to report in the week sales of some 3,000 to 4,000 bags Rio from second hands at prices within our range of quotations. The market at the close may be written strong at our figures below, though before the receipt of the Rio news, holders, in order to effect as es would have been obliged to have made a concession of ¼ to ⅜c from these figures. We quote Rio, in bond, at 15¾@ 15¾ cents for fair cargoes, 16@16¼ cents for good do, and 16¾@17c for prime do., all gold, though at present quotations must be considered nominal. The receipts this week have been 5,000 bags Rio per "Lady Agnes," 5,047 bags do per "Aquidneck," and the stock to-day is 57,000 bags, against 18,000 bags. We give below the Rio advices:

[JOSEPH M. WRIGHT & CO.'S TELEGRAM.]

RIO JANEIRO, November 22, 1871.

Purchases Coffee for United States since

November 6..... 71,500 bags
Cleared for United States, Atlantic ports.. 71,000 bags
Cleared for United States, Gulf ports..... 22,000 bags
Loading for United States..... 28,500 bags
Stock on hand..... 110,000 bags
Price of American lots..... 8?99

Exchange 24¾d.
Flour—Richmond, 23?000
Flour—Baltimore, 21?000
—*American.*

## THE HOP MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA.

December 16.—There is a steady inquiry from brewers, and fair prices are bid for prime grades of both 1870 and 1871, with perhaps a slightly easier feeling in the poorer qualities. Bavarians have sold at 72c, for quality hardly considered choice on the Continent. We quote:

1871.....at 40@70c
1870, fair to prime..... 15@30c
Low grades..... 5@10c

NEW YORK.

December 16.—There is a good demand for the better qualities of 1871's, which are very scarce. The sales are about 130 bales at from 60@70c, as to quality. Older grades are held above the views of consumers. The following is from the circular of 14th inst. of Mr. Emmet Wells:

| | Bales. |
|---|---|
| Receipts for the week | 516 |
| Receipts corresponding week last year | 2,079 |
| Receipts corresponding week 1869 | 3,791 |
| Total receipts since September 1st | 19,756 |
| Total receipts corresponding season last year | 30,995 |
| Export crop for week | 2 |
| Total exports since September 1 | 1,926 |
| Total imports since September 1 | 70 |
| Total consumption since September 1 | 2,136 |

Our London correspondent favors us with the following under date December 2: "Extreme dullness has characterized our market this week, and all classes of hops can be bought on easier terms, though no actual decline has taken place as yet is exhibited on any description of hops, and I do not see any prospect of any material change until the turn of the year. Foreign markets show no change."—*Commercial List.*

## COAL MARKETS.

LOUISVILLE.

December 12.—The supply is said to be short, and some of the dealers to-day advanced Pittsburgh to 28c; others are selling and will continue to sell here at 25c per bushel, but the impression is general that the supply will be run out, and quotations are discontinued. Kentucky coal is scarce, but the supply is said to be fortunately behind the demand. The quotations to-day are as follows—delivered; Pittsburgh, 28c; Kentucky, 25c.

December 16.—The market is unchanged to-day. Dealers quote as follows, delivered; Beaver Dam and Rendor (Ky.) coal, 25c; Pittsburgh, 28c; Anthracite, egg size, $12 ? ton; nut size, $11.

CINCINNATI.

December 16.—There is a brisk retail demand, and many of the dealers are unable to keep up with their orders. The sales to-day were mainly at 28c ? bush for Pittsburgh, and 22@25c for Ohio river, delivered to consumers. Some sales at 30c.

December 19.—The demand from the retail trade has been quite active, and prices are higher, with a pretty rapid reduction in the supply.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Youghiogheny, delivered, ? bush | | | 28c |
| Ohio river, delivered, ? bush | | | 24c |
| Cannel, delivered, ? bush | | | 28@30c |
| Anthracite, ? ton | | | $11 00 |
| Gas Coke, at yards, ? bush | | | 12c |
| Gas Coke, delivered, ? bush | | | 20c |
| Hard Foundery, delivered, ? bush | | | 16@17c |

**Receipts of Iron at St. Louis**

For the week ending Saturday, December 16, 1871.

| | Ore, Tons. | Pig Iron, Tons. |
|---|---|---|
| St. Louis and Iron Mountain | 2,952 | 800 |
| Atlantic and Pacific | 180 | 520 |
| Ohio and Mississippi | | 100 |
| Chicago, Alton and St. Louis | 40 | 40 |
| St. L., Van., T. H. and Ind | | 40 |
| Rockford and Rock Island | | 20 |
| St. L., Bl and Southern Illinois | | 150 |
| Total tons | 2,972 | 1,710 |

# FINANCE AND TRADE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, December 20, 1871.

The low register of the mercury has its effects on dealers, and every one that can do so is staying by the fire. Very little movement worthy of note can be recorded. We hear of good paper of our iron houses selling at nine and ten per cent., while equally as good, in Lands of weak holders, has sold at one to one and a quarter per month.

The National banks are called upon for a statement up to the close of business of last Saturday. This was the time pretty generally expected. We do not expect, however, that the condition of the local loan market will show any improvement until after the new year, when the disbursements of the dividends on the various local stocks and bonds will be made, which of itself is a considerable item of supply to the market.

The transactions in local stocks are usually very light on the closing week of the year. Dividend time being nigh, holders are not eager to part with their stocks until they receive their dividend. The First National Bank of Birmingham sold at $173. This price indicates a most profitable career for it. The Lawrenceville Savings Bank is a very flourishing one, and its stock is rarely seen on the market. Pittsburgh Gas Company stock shows some recovery—selling up to 78; Ewalt street Bridge Company stock is quoted at 42, and Columbia oil stock is looking higher in view of the January dividend.

The failure of one of the National banks in Philadelphia is announced. It was known to be very weak, having been in difficulty some two years ago; and if any of our city banks are losers by this failure, they had ample warning to withdraw in time.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

| | Morn. | Noon. | Close. |
|---|---|---|---|
| U. S. Bonds of 1881 | 117¾ | 117¾ | 117¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1868 | 109¾ | 109¾ | 109¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1864 | 109¾ | 109¾ | 109¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1865 | 111 | 111¼ | 111¼ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new) | 114 | 114 | 114 |
| U. S. Bonds of 1867 | 115¾ | 115¾ | 115¾ |
| U. S. Bonds of 1868 | 115¾ | 115¾ | 115¾ |
| New 58 | 109¾ | 109¾ | 109¾ |
| 10?s | 109¾ | 109¾ | 109¾ |
| Golds | 109 | 108¾ | 109 |

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Gold | 108¾ |
| United States of 1881 | 117¾ |
| United States 5-20s of 1862 | 109¾ |
| United States 5-20s of 1864 | 109¾ |
| United States 5-20s of 1865 | 111¼ |
| United States 10-40s | 109¾ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865 | 114 |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867 | 115¾ |
| United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868 | 115¾ |
| Union Pacific Railroad | 84 |
| Central Pacific Railroad | |
| Currency Bonds | |

—Gold was down to 8 3-4 to-day, the lowest mark registered since 1862.

—Money in New York to-day commands a commission above the regular 7 per cent. interest, making the rate from thirty to eighty per cent. a year. But this rate only lasts about a fortnight, and is paid by the cliques to accomplish the success of one or the other. The old bear party headed by Fisk has turned to the bull side—it is said, and the Vanderbilt ring is squeezing the money market, and making Daniel take their stocks at high prices. The ways of Wall street are scarcely ever logical.

—The following table, made up from telegrams received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

| December 30, 1871. | 10:30 A. M. | 11:15 A. M. | 12:30 M. | 2:30 P. M. | 4:00 P. M. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G. | 92¾ | 92¾ | 92¾ | 92¾ | 92¾ |
| Do. Scrip | 87 | 87 | 87 | 87 | 87 |
| Erie | 33¾ | 33¾ | 33¾ | 33¾ | 33¾ |
| Reading | | 116 | 116 | 116 | 116 |
| Harlem | | 118 | 118 | 118 | 118 |
| Gold | | 108 | 108 | 108 | 108 |
| Lake Shore | 90¾ | 91 | 91 | 91 | 91 |
| Illinois Cent | | 132 | 132 | 132 | 132 |
| Cleve. & Pitts | | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| Chic. & Rock Isl | 102 | 102 | 102 | 102 | 102 |
| Do. pref | | | | | |
| Pittsburgh | 104 | 104¾ | 104¾ | 104¾ | 104¾ |
| Ft. Wayne | | 96 | 96 | 96 | 96 |
| Ft. Wayne guar | | 96 | 96 | 96 | 96 |
| St. Paul | | 34½ | 34½ | 34½ | 34½ |
| Do. pref | | 58 | 58 | 58 | 58 |
| Fol. & Wabash | 64¾ | 64¾ | 64¾ | 64¾ | 64¾ |
| Terre Haute | | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Fort Wayne | | 96 | 96 | 96 | 96 |
| Ohio & Miss | 42 | 42 | 42¼ | 42¼ | 42¼ |
| Chic. & Alton | | 116¾ | 116¾ | 116¾ | 116¾ |
| Do. pref | | | | | |
| Union Pacific | | 37¾ | 37¾ | 37¾ | 37¾ |
| Canton | | | | | |
| Panton | | | | | |
| W. U. Tel | | 84 | 84 | 84 | 84 |
| Pacific Mail | | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 |
| Adams Ex | | 68 | 68 | 68 | 68 |
| Wells F. Ex | | 36½ | 36½ | 36½ | 36½ |
| Mariposa | | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Do. pref | | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 |
| Gold | 10?9 | 10?9 | 10?9 | 10?9 | 10?9 |

"Ex-dividend."

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pennsylvania Central | 58 | |
| Philadelphia and Erie | 25 | |
| Lehigh Navigation | 40¼ | |
| Catawissa preferred | 44¾ | |
| Little Schuylkill Railroad | 37½ | |
| Lehigh Valley Railroad | 60 | |
| North Pennsylvania Railroad | 59¾ | |
| Camden and Amboy Railroad | 134½ | |
| Schuylkill Navigation | | |
| Reading | 116¾ | 116¾ |

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, he buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or well indorsed promissory notes, or on mortgages on city or allegheny county real estate.

## PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } MONDAY, December 18, 1871. }

REMARKS.—The market yesterday was entirely devoid of animation. The extreme cold weather seems to have caused dealers to hold back. So long as they continue apart in their views sales will be few and far between. We did not hear of any sales. The following are the asking rates.

The nominal rates for the various deliveries were: Spot 10¾c; s. o., all the year 10¾c; b. o., all the year 10¾c; Parkers $3 75; Lower Creek $4 25; Oil City $4 25 per bbl.

REFINED.

The asking rates were precisely the same as those demanded the day previous, with a steady market. We quote spot 21¾c; December 22c; January 22c; February 22¾c; March 22¾c, for eastern delivery.

[By Western Union Line.]

TITUSVILLE, December 20.—Transactions were light yesterday. We quote the following

SALES:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1,000 bbls spot | 4 09 |
| 500 bbls, do | 4 02½ |
| 4,000 bbls do | 4 00 |
| 1,000 bbls do | 3 90 |
| 2,000 bbls lower road, regular | 4 00 |
| 1,000 bbls spot | 4 00 |
| 3,000 bbls do | 4 00 |
| 4 cars spot | 4 00 |
| 6 cars Oil City | 4 20 |

NEW YORK, December 20.—The market somewhat irregular, the shipping demand being light and prices somewhat nominal. Crude in bulk quoted at 13c with 1,000 bbls sold at that price. Refined 22¾c for contracts and early delivery. Philadelphia delivery: More inquiry; refined for December quoted at 21¾@21¾c bid; 22c asked.

TITUSVILLE, December 20.—Market in better feeling; $4 00 offered for spot and S. O. 1871.

OIL CITY, December 20.—Market firm and quiet; ordinary on lower road held at $4 10; 47 gravity Oil City held at $4 25@4 30.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 20.—Market very quiet at $4 10.

ROUSEVILLE, December 20.—Market quiet at $4 00. Shipments of the week 15,000 bbls.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20.—Market quiet S W 21¾@22c; crude 11¾c; cases 26c?; January to March 22¾c.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Line.]

PLEASANTVILLE, December 20.—Market dull at $4 05.

OIL CITY, December 20.—Market very quiet at Oil City at $4 25@4 30; lower creek $4 10@4 15.

TITUSVILLE, December 20.—Market firm and more active than yesterday at $4 15 now bid for spot.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 20.—Market firm at $4 05. No sales.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Market dull and inactive, and there is no price; contracts nominally 22¾c, crude quiet, spot offering at 13c, with no sales.

PARKERS LANDING, December 20.—Market quiet and firm at $3 70@3 75.

PETROLEUM CENTER, December 20.—Sales December at 21¾@22c; January to March 22¾@23c; April to June 23¾c; April to December 25c.

TITUSVILLE, December 20.—Market quiet and inactive at $3 90.

ROUSEVILLE, December 20.—Market steady at $4a 4 05.

## Pork Packing in the West.

Mr. N. S. Jones, provision broker, of Cincinnati, has issued a circular in regard to the packing of the present season, which we take the following: I have heard from many other points besides those given below, but as the information derived is indirect, I will not report them now. I will say, however, that they nearly all conc

# Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1871.

TERMS.

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per copy.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.


## CHAMPIONS TO BE FEARED.

In nothing did General GRANT in his recent message more fully command the approbation of the country than the frankness with which he referred to the shortcomings of subordinate officials, and the necessity for early and searching scrutiny in the interest of retrenchment and reform. So far from pretending that there had been no unfaithfulness, he promptly admitted that there had been much of it, and he did so to illustrate the necessity of Civil Service Reform, more especially to condemn the practice of "indorsing" applications without regard to the fitness of applicants,—a practice to which, we understand him to refer, as inflicting on the country, far beyond any other single cause, what has been and must ever be the natural outcome of incompeteney and dishonesty.

We need not say that there are Republicans who join the Democrats against General GRANT and his administration, ostensibly because there have been defalcations, the total of which, however, considering the sum handled, is below any previous administration. We need not say that there is a decided difference between conspiring to defeat General GRANT's nomination and election and reforming the Civil Service, and it does not look well for Senators who pretend to be sticklers for such reform to seize upon the recommendations in the Message, and the reasons in support thereof, as arguments against the President himself. If it had been reform and not hostility to General GRANT, that actuated them, they would have promptly supported his efforts, instead of joining the Democrats, whose history precludes the idea of reform. It was the expert straddling of a hobby to gratify personal animosity and accomplish a hostile and wholly inconsistent purpose, and this is the attitude Senators TRUMBULL, SCHURZ and others, we think, appear in before the country, from their efforts during the past week to procure the appointment of a so-called Retrenchment and Reform Committee. Nor do Senators MORTON, CONKLING and the majority, who, without much thought, it is fair to presume, in caucus and in the Senate, went with them to the end of virtually suppressing the inquiry recommended by the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, appear to a much better advantage. Without intending it, perhaps, they appeared to fear inquiry, and acted as though there were reasons for repressing it—which was as bad as the hostile purpose of TRUMBULL and his associates. Senator WILSON thought it was worse, and so, as the wiser GRANT man, so to speak, he voted for the TRUMBULL proposition. As we read in Republican journals, this is the average sentiment, indicated as much by the silence of some as the utterances of others. As we said a few days ago, it was proper to oppose the setting up of a piece of machinery to be run in the interest of the Democratic party, whether by dissatisfied Republicans alone or jointly with Democratic leaders. No one will dispute the right of Republicans to dissent from Gen. GRANT's renomination. To labor for some other Republican is as much their right as it is the right of supporters of Gen. GRANT to labor for him—but not by leaguing with the Democrats and perverting facts and arguments which should be referred to only in praise of Gen. GRANT, so as to assist in a hostile object. In circumventing this scheme, there was manifested little tact or wisdom, and we presume that Senators MORTON and CONKLING realize this now. They seemed to think and act as though, since the "anti-GRANT" Senators had proposed a thing, it must necessarily be denied, not perceiving what club thereby would be put in the hands of their opponents. Certainly Gen. GRANT's friends should not hesitate to go as far in the direction of inquiry for reform as he does; and it is apparent now that the Republican Senatorial caucus should have done just this. Perhaps after all they intended nothing else, but were simply unfortunate in their manner! If there is anything to cover up, which we do not believe, then TRUMBULL and company have the advantage, for the truth will not be smothered. If there is nothing to cover up (and Gen. GRANT fears nothing), then it was the worst sort of blundering to act or seem to act as though there was.

General GRANT is wiser and stronger than these Senatorial champions. He courts investigation, and fears no consequences. If Senators have grounds for specific charges; if, as has been intimated, grounds exist for suspecting that persons near the President, perhaps in the White House even, are mixed up with matters and things which will not bear the light of day, it is presumed that the fact can be shown, and we are confident that if shown General GRANT himself would be first and foremost in applying to reformatory discipline.

The difference between an inquiry for retrenchment and reform and setting up a machine for grinding out a Presidential candidate is apparent; and the difference between a fair and square investigation for honest ends looking to the general welfare, and a piece of caucus machinery labeled one thing but practically another, is quite as apparent. Taken all in all, it is probable that if the experience of the past week is to be frequently repeated, the friends of Gen. GRANT have more to fear from MORTON and CONKLING and their followers than from TRUMBULL, SCHURZ and their Democratic co-workers.

As a general thing, the fewer laws there are on the statute books, the more throughly and faithfully are they likely to be enforced. Paradoxical as it may seem, the world is governed at once too little and too much. Our legislative archives are piled with acts and ordinances declaring, commanding, or prohibiting something or other which had far better been left to the regulation of events themselves. It is a mistaken idea to suppose that Legislatures, State or National, are bound to provide panaceas for every real or imagined ill or evil which may afflict or threaten to afflict the body politic. A few plain, positive enactments, expressed with straightforward clearness, and enforced with impartial vigor and determination, would yield, there is reason to think, a good deal better and more desirable outcome than is derived from the present propensity of legislative bodies to make regulations and ordainments for every matter under the sun. While, therefore, no one is likely for a moment to impugn the motive of Mr. HOAR in calling up for consideration in Congress his last year's bill providing for the establishment of a Labor Commission, it is nevertheless to be hoped that the proposition may be promptly and decisively defeated. However it may be in other countries, where the masses are shut out from the ownership of land, where political power is transmitted by hereditary descent, whereby the few are educated, and the many are doomed to ignorance, and rich men in reality grind the faces of the poor—yet in this country, where no such grievances exist—where the rail-splitter or the tanner of yesterday may become the President of to-morrow, and, as a rule, the only limits set to a man's elevation and advancement are such as inhere in his own habit or organization—all questions relating to capital and labor, wages and divisions of profits, hours of employment, or matters of similar import, may be safely left for adjustment in the hands of those whom they especially affect and concern.

THE trouble in the colored Republic of Liberia, to which we sometime ago referred, is said to have assumed a serious aspect. Some months since a loan was negotiated in England for the purpose of constructing railroads in Liberia to open up the country to European trade and native enterprise. It is now charged that President ROYE and his son have misappropriated upwards of two hundred thousand dollars worth of these bonds, and it is further stated that they have been arrested and lodged in prison. A manifesto has been issued by the chiefs of the Executive Committee, charging him with these and other offenses, among which are that he has invaded the courts of justice, assumed to dictate the selection of jurors, declared the people in a state of rebellion, and attempted to escape to foreign countries. For these alleged crimes the people, in their sovereign capacity, have assumed to depose him from the office of President, the government meanwhile being temporarily conducted by a Chief Executive Committee, consisting of three members.

### ASSERTIONS VS. FACTS.

In the course of an article designed as a reply to a paper on "the inconsistencies of free traders," in a protectionist journal, the New York *Bulletin*, after stating that it is not the wages a mechanic receives which measures his prosperity, but the amount of work he is compelled to give in exchange for what he consumes, proceeds, in substance, to express its belief that the Irish "hog trotter," who lives the year round upon the proceeds of a potato patch and a pigsty, is better off in point of fact than the Irish laborer in New York with wages at a dollar and a half a day; while with reference to English labor it remarks that—

"A printer in London can buy with the labor of nine days, six hours and thirty minutes, a suit of fine broadcloth clothes, which would cost the American workingman twelve days' labor, or he can purchase six shirts with three days and five hours' labor, while the American mechanic must work six days for six shirts of a poorer quality; or he can buy a pair of calf skin boots with the labor of two days and a half, while boots of an inferior quality cost the protected American mechanic the labor of from three days and a half to five days."

Will our contemporary be good enough to explain how it comes about that, with all these home advantages in favor of the workingmen of England and Ireland, there should be such a steady and constantly increasing flow of emigration of the laboring classes from those countries? It is not a sufficient answer to say that opportunities of employment are more frequent in the United States than in Great Britain or on the continent of Europe; since it is principally from the steadily employed classes that our accessions of foreign population are drawn. The pauper classes of those countries, as contradistinguished from its industrial orders, are from the very nature of the case precluded from getting away; their absolute poverty prevents them. It is chiefly those who by constant employment have, through year-long exercise of the most rigid frugality, economy and self-denial, been able to save up a little money to pay their passage across the sea, who set their faces hitherward; and when the money is not thus obtained it is derived from remittances sent by friends who have preceded them here, and who, out of their "dollar and a half a day," have saved enough to snatch their kindred in the old home from pauperism. More and more do they pluck the roots of their lives out of their native soil, and transplant themselves into far, strange lands, without a sufficient reason. People do not voluntarily exchange the better for the worse, nor, having done so, contentedly remain in the less desirable condition; while the money—ranging from one to five millions of dollars per annum—which our naturalized citizens remit to their friends and relatives in Europe for the purpose, chiefly, of getting them out here, is a sufficient refutation of the free trade fallacies of the *Bulletin*, whose argument—did it possess vitality or force—should at once stop the stream of immigration, if indeed it did not turn it the other way.

MOST readers will remember that the Chinese Government, after the Tien-Tsin massacre, dispatched an Embassy to France to apologize for or explain the affair, or, at any rate, to make its peace with the French Emperor. This Embassy arrived in France in the midst of the German war—indeed, only a few days after the battle of Sedan. It would not have found the Government to which it was accredited in a condition less favorable to impress it with the folly or wrong of which the Chinese had been guilty. The Emperor was a prisoner and Paris was besieged. Directed to Tours as the actual seat of French power, the Chinese found the city in violent excitement in daily expectation of the arrival of the Prussians, and the Government of Defense had fled to Bordeaux. Arrived at Bordeaux, and about to be introduced to GAMBETTA, the Mandarins were again put out, as just then the capitulation of Paris took place, followed by the convocation of the National Assembly and the removal of the Government to Versailles. The Celestials, weary of their search, then set out for Pekin where arrived, says a Frenchman, "they declared to the chief the Celestial Empire that in spite of the six months of travel and search they had not succeeded in laying hand on the French Government." Of course, the effect of this failure must have been very disastrous to French prestige in the East, and with the purpose of counteracting it as much as possible, the French Government has determined to send M. BERTHEMY as ambassador extraordinary to China. M. BERTHEMY was long French representative in Washington.

THE favorable and hopeful character of the recent bulletins concerning the condition of the Prince of Wales, will give general satisfaction to the people of the United States. The universal joy of the English people at the prospect of the Prince's restoration to health furnishes a singular commentary on the conclusions reached by so many journals on this side of the water, that his death would result in a political revolution, and the immediate formation of a republic. That there is a considerable and continuously increasing anti-monarchical sentiment in England is not to be doubted, but the tender sympathy evinced by all classes and conditions of people toward the royal family in their affliction, proves that it is by no means of the violent and insurrectionary character which has been claimed. Hardly anything can be more touching or beautiful than the hushed and tearful respect with which the whole people of that country gathered, as it were, around the mother ministering at the bedside of her sick son. Should the Prince live to read the obituaries that have been written of him, let us hope that he may not forget that his illness is most honorable to the humanity of the British people. Plucked back to this life from that other world on whose confines he so long hovered, it is to be trusted that he may become every way worthy of the interest and affection which have been manifested toward him, walk in the footsteps of his honorable father, wear "the white lily of a blameless life," and—monarch of others—reverence his own conscience as King.

GAIL HAMILTON, who, whatever differences may exist as to certain of her views, is admitted to be one of the most forcible and incisive writers of her sex,—asks the pertinent question why, if we desire heathen people to work upon, we do not take those which are here, ready to our hand, instead of going around to the other side of the world into countries where we are not wanted? It is not proposed to discuss the matter here, but it would really seem that the question deserves more consideration than it has hitherto received. If we are so powerless for good to the heathen at our own doors, and over whom we have complete control, what abiding results are to be expected from exporting our Missionaries to countries which have again and again intimated to us that they consider our efforts at proselyting in the light of an impertinent intrusion? The Greeks are at our own doors, and there are certainly two sides to the question whether it is the highest spiritual economy and patriotism to send our best men and women from home, while so much appalling wickedness flourishes and festers close by our own hearthside. There is, right among us, work for as many Missionaries, and as much money and machinery, as can be employed—at least at present. Is it good husbandry to neglect our own fields, and let our own humanity run into its present bitter and hideous waste? If, however, both domestic and foreign fields can be cultivated, all the better. If only one, which?

AS A CHAPTER in the current history of the times, we print the letter of Colonel A. K. MCCLURE, in another column. This gentleman has, we believe, been for some time more on the outside than inside of the working Republican circle, though not so much so as to prevent him from being considerably thought of and seriously proposed as the Republican candidate for the vacancy in the Fourth Senatorial District, Philadelphia. This letter appears to have been written for that market—which if it shall prove an acceptable document, seeing that the district is overwhelmingly Republican, must be in a demoralized state. The letter itself is pitched on the key note of the new cry of "Reform" raised against General GRANT; and if in the Fourth District any number of voters of whatever name feel like trying the question, we judge that they cannot do better than take Col. MCCLURE. Portions of the letter, as the Philadelphia *Press* observes, will command the cordial approbation of Pennsylvania Republicans, the great body of whom, however, will regret that the writer is not in accord with them in every respect.

### French Decadence.

One of the saddest and most convincing proofs of the moral and social decadence into which France has fallen, is afforded in the suggestion lately made by a writer in a prominent journal of Paris, that the nation should replenish its exhausted exchequer by legalizing public gambling establishments, and organizing them on a gigantic scale throughout the country. After declaring that the end justifies the means, this writer proceeds to state that by the aid of its gaming tables Germany was enabled to construct railroads, schools, hospitals, barracks, and to put herself in a position to conquer France. "The gaming tables have done it all," he exclaims; "and now, in order to flatter Protestant hypocrisy," Germany is about to be so foolish as to abolish them: an opportunity for France which, if properly improved, will bring about "the very salvation of the country." It then proceeds to enumerate all the spas of France, and points out that it only requires a law authorizing the Government to grant gambling licenses to all these places "in order to replenish at once our empty coffers." The writer of the article further states that if the French Government will confer upon him the power to establish houses of this character at discretion, with the right of underletting and transmission to his heirs, he will engage to pay into the national treasury the sum of two hundred and fifty millions of francs per annum, or five milliards in twenty years—the latter sum being the exact amount of the German war indemnity. That this programme is seriously proposed is evident from the arguments with which the writer reinforces his proposition. He claims that the bourses of France and the clubs of Paris are all of them gambling houses in disguise, and that the system of raising public loans by means of prizes contains all the same principle which lies at the bottom of his own scheme. The bold, outspoken prodigacy of the suggestion, made in such a business like manner, as though it were a most natural project in the world—propounded, too, at a time when in other countries the system is falling under the general condemnation of society, indicates a demoralization at the tone of the public mind by no means reassuring to those who hope to see that unhappy country come out of her tribulations strengthened for the accomplishment of honorable purposes and deeds.

A FOREIGN correspondent writing to the New York *Tribune* states with great distinctness that the signs of Imperial restoration in France are threatening. If his statements may be relied upon even M. Thiers and his friends are not without fear, which he considers to be a notable sign. In the recent elections to fill the vacancies in the municipal councils, the radical republican candidates were successful in three arrondissements, in a fourth an equal vote, and in the fifth a small majority for the conservative candidate. These facts, the writer thinks, are evidences that the people who writes a Red result is not sufficiently interested in the matter to protect himself at the polls. Last September he shouted the chorus of "Mort aux Rois," and in September next will be ready to welcome Napoleon back to his overturned throne. The Government fears some mischievous effect from the death-shots fired at Rassel and Ferre. The popular leaders are gone to their graves or to prison, and the spirit of revolt was sunk to a spirit of discontent. In the present state of France the only revolution which can be successful must be worked by the army. "Leaving will out of the question," says the writer, "Paris could offer nothing in opposition to the return of Napoleon, if brought back in the train of one military division led by a general seriously determined to earn his marshal's *baton*. Yet I don't believe he can or will return."

YEARS ago, a thing of beauty was said to be a joy forever, but in this age the tricks and artifices practiced by women, horse-dealers, bird-fanciers, and other trades, have created such a deplorable condition of doubt and distrust, that even "the white and red which nature's sweet and cunning hand laid on," is believed to be due to paint, while even birds themselves are suspected of wearing false plumage. Some time ago an Englishman sent three canaryinto a competitive exhibition, where they were subject to various tests, such as acids and alkalies, in consequence of the natural brightness and beauty of their color. Feathers were also plucked out of them, and the owner was requested to leave them for a month to see if the new feathers would be of the same hue as those of which they had been deprived. At the end of that time the birds were pronounced disqualified for the exhibition on the ground that their color was unnaturally beautiful. The much maligned birds subsequently each took a prize at another competitive canary exhibition, however, though even then they were looked at with suspicion owing to the supernatural beauty of their color, and were again subjected to certain chemical tests. Ought not this to teach women who sail under false colors a lesson as to their *juste*?

IT is now said to be a foregone conclusion that the interest on the South Carolina State bonds, which falls due on the first of January next, will not be paid. This is the natural and inevitable result of Ku-Klux insurrection on the one hand, and of an extravagant and dishonest administration on the other, and is not at all surprising or unexpected. The old bonds, it is reported, will be included in this repudiation, which will relieve the depleted condition of the Treasury, and the inability to raise any more money on the credit of the State. The Senatorial Committee recently appointed to investigate the affairs of the State Government, have reported that there has been an illegal issue of bonds to the amount of six millions of dollars. Where this money has gone to, or to whose fingers it has stuck, will probably never be discovered; but the Committee report that it has all been spent, or temporary, into which the State is plunged, is another trumpet-tongued admonition to the people to put down lawlessness with an iron hand, and to entrust political power and patronage only to those whom they know to be faithful and upright.

PRINCE BISMARCK evidently does not propose to have the diplomatic representatives play second fiddle to anybody. He recently made a speech in which he said that he would not be annoyed in more cases to foreign countries, but only full ambassadors, with good salaries, whether they possessed private fortunes or not. Envoys and poor men, he declared, were liable to be snubbed. Some time ago, when he died with a minister, if an ambassador from the most insignificant country is announced, the envoy must take his hat and bow himself out. If waiting for an audience, he must give up his turn to an ambassador. This state of things, so far as Germany was concerned, he proposed to remedy by having the nation represented by its best men, with adequate pay for their services. According to the testimony of Treasurer Spinner examining witnesses while surrounding of not a few of our foreign diplomats and consular agents, some action of similar character would seem to be called for on our own part. So long as we are represented at foreign courts our agents should be equal in point of breeding with the proudest. If we don't like the expense, let them be withdrawn altogether.

ANOTHER progressive step has been taken in the city of New York. At the present week, a colored man having made his appearance in the jury box among eleven white colleagues, and discharged without interruption the duty which he had been empaneled to perform. The appearance of the "man and brother" in the jury box of a court of law is, it is said, great sensation in Court, judge, jury, prisoner and spectators being alike astonished. So modestly, intelligently and conscientiously, however, did he conduct himself, that on the following day he was chosen foreman of the jury selected to try a case involving an action for wages; the verdict being approved by the Judge, and the associate jurors declaring that they desired no better or more capable associate than their foreman. This is the first instance of a colored man having been empaneled in the city or the State of New York, and in its representative aspect practically admits the race to the full enjoyment of the rights and prerogatives as citizens. It is probable that the precedent thus set will hereafter be followed, and that in the future the jury panel will be called from the roll of citizens without respect to color.

THE deliberate murder the eight young students of the Havana University, on the 27th ult., and the condemnation to the chain gang of their thirty-four companions, has created a profound sensation in the city of Havana. It is now universally conceded that the blame of the whole matter attaches to Governor Lopez Roberts. He had heard of the profanation of the tomb of Castañon, and conceived the idea of manufacturing evidence against the youths. It is publicly stated in Havana that he promised Alonzo Alvarez de la Campa that he would hush the matter up for $200,000. De la Campa, who is an ultra Spaniard, laughed at the idea of anything serious arising from the affair, and himself went before a judge to the palace, in spite of his wife's remonstrance. The boy, his only son, was one of those who suffered death. The thirty-four prisoners are all put upon prison diet, and are only allowed to receive one visitor between the hours of 9 A. M. and two P. M. Three of them have already become so sick as to be inmates of the hospital, and it is feared the others cannot long survive the slow torture to which they are subjected.

AMONG the variety of plans suggested for the funding of the national debt, the following proposition of a correspondent of the New York *Tribune* seems to be one of the simplest and least impracticable. His plan, in brief, is, first, to have Congress pass a consolidated loan to run thirty years, interest at 3-65-100 per cent. per annum, payable half yearly in gold, the government to exchange greenbacks at par for such bonds, at the rate of one dollar per day for labor. Second: Banks to exchange all their high-price bonds for the new at par, or surrender their charter. Third: To treat gold as a commodity, and tax the seller one-half of one per cent. This, he argues, would break up speculation in gold, and in less than five years it would not be wanted by the merchants or by the people, except to pay duties on imports. He holds the debt of the United States, paying the above interest per annum, to be a better investment and of value than gold, and believes it would be the most convenient money ever devised. He would make gold receivable in payments of debt at par, but it transferred above par it should pay a tax to the government.

THE business interests of commercial travelers have always been much interfered with, by laws passed in the various States, forbidding the sale of goods by sample, and a State license levied for taking out, the law further providing that none but residents of the State in which business was to be done, should be eligible to receive such license. Commercial travelers selling by sample, and attempting to do business in the various States, were by this law liable to be arrested, fined, and in some cases imprisonment. The Supreme Court of the United States in the case of Ward *vs.* Maryland has just declared these laws void under that clause of the constitution which guarantees to the citizens of every State, all the rights and privileges of citizens in the several States. This decision virtually makes these obnoxious laws inefficient as it is scarcely probable that any State will pass laws restricting sales by samples by its own citizens.

BY late exchanges from Lower California we learn that a revolution of a serious character has broken out there. A detachment of Territorial troops were sent, last month, to Magdalena from La Paz to disperse the Mexicans and seize the funds and papers in the Custom House. They placed themselves under the protection of the flag of the American Consul, but it was not respected, and all had to flee for their lives. The troops took refuge on a British ship, and under convoy of a Pacific mail steamship were enabled to leave the harbor. All the port officers and their families were rescued. The American schooner Greenwood was fired into by the revolutionists, was captured, and is now in the hands of the Mexicans. The sloop Alice, of New York, which was sent with a government dispatch to the United States Consul at La Paz, was also captured. A cousin to Cape San Lucas, with immorant dispatches, was taken prisoner, and other outrages committed.

CHICAGO don't appear to have learned perfect wisdom even with reference to guarding against fires, judging from the following from the *Tribune*: "It seems remarkable that no precautions have been taken toward preventing the spread of fires in the North Division. That quarter has already been rebuilt so thickly, especially west of Lasalle street, that a fire, aided by a high wind, would make disastrous work among the pine shanties, and turn out many poor people a second time from their homes—this time to suffer, unsheltered, from the rigors of winter. It is reported that there are, as yet, no fire alarm boxes or watch-towers in the North Division. This is a neglect which—supposing Alderman Bross to have been got out of the way, with his injunctions and long-drawn—should be remedied at once."

### GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

There is a general rumor afloat that the Commissioners having in charge the centennial exhibition in 1876, have been canvassed upon a proposition which has for its object the assumption of the entire expenses of the exhibition by the United States, in consideration of which this State is to donate to the government, the Philadelphia State House and Independence Square. The idea is a novel one and the rumor needs confirmation.

Affairs in Mexico do not seem to be improved by the re-election of Juarez. His high handed action in securing the position by overawing and purchasing Congress, has had the effect of alienating the esteem of the people. Juarez has filled the Presidential chair so long (for a Mexican official), that he seems to think he has a mortgage on it.

A concluded statement of the amount of whisky produced in the States for the month of September last shows the number of bushels of grain mashed by members of the association to have been 884,039, producing 9,971,788 gallons of whisky. By distillers outside of the association there were mashed 332,645 bushels of grain, producing 1,119,653 gallons of whisky. The State of Ohio had mashed in the association 260,906 bushels, producing 895,843 gallons; outside the association 48,098 bushels, producing 155,561 gallons. J. W. Graff, of Cincinnati, is the largest manufacturer in the United States.

A Rev. Mr. Whittaker held during last summer the position of Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Lincoln Institute, a school for the education of the colored children of Missouri. During a session of the Board Mr. Whittaker became involved in a controversy with a Colonel Foster, one of his colleagues, and by way of settling the matter the reverend gentleman deliberately rose and spit in the face of the Colonel. The ecclesiastical expectorator was requested to apologize, but he refused to do so, and also further stated that it was his intention to insult Colonel Foster. The reverend gentleman was promptly expelled, and has now caused a *mandamus* to be served on Governor Brown, ex-officio President of the Board, demanding to be reinstated in his rights. Is the privilege of spitting in his colleagues face included?

But few persons have any idea of the magnitude of the Texas cattle trade. It is stated that during the past year no less than 600,000 beeves have been driven from Texas into Kansas, Nebraska, and the western States. It requires about 20,000 head of cattle to feed the Indians which are not included in the above estimate, but which are purchased by the government of Texas traders.

Rossel, the French revolutionist, just before his death addressed the following letter to a friend:

"MY DEAR M. PASSA: I charge you if ever the party which I have supported should attain power, and if it should threaten its adversaries with its vengeance, to make use of this letter to tell them that at my last hour I carry with me those who have the honor to defend liberty not to avenge its victims; that would be unworthy of liberty and of us who are dead. Your friend devoted L. ROSSEL."

"CONCIERGERIE, Dec. 28, 5:30 A. M."

Two imitations of the celebrated Davenport Brothers, who style themselves the Thorpe Brothers, are amusing the New York public. In addition to the other mummeries connected with the exhibition, these men claim the power of curing sickness of all infirmities by the laying on of hands. Quite a number of foolish people nightly mount the platform and allow these charlatans to go through their manipulations.

It is expected that Kossuth, after his long absence from Hungary, will in a short time return to that country. A pamphlet edition of his letters has been published in Pesth, which is being very widely circulated.

A correspondent from Columbia, S. C., states that a prominent gentleman who testified before the Congressional Investigating Committee that no Ku-Klux outrages had occurred in his county is in great distress of mind. He is painfully impressed with the conviction that his testimony was false, and is seeking advice as to "what to do about it." An eminent legal gentleman has advised him to write to the Committee and confess his error. This man has set a good example, and he has only to follow it and he will be all "mistaken" the best advice is—go and do likewise.

The late elections for members of the municipal councils in Spain resulted in a grand triumph for the Republican party. The people in the towns and villages of that country are rapidly being converted to Democratic principles.

Prince Alexis understands the European habit of everlastingly feeing servants, which is a peculiarity of the old world. When he departed from Philadelphia he left behind him a handful of bills distributed among the servants at the Continental Hotel, and gave Mayor Fox twenty-five dollars for the man who stopped his runaway horses.

The annual report of the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics on Commerce and Navigation, for the fiscal year 1871, which is now in print, shows that the value of and duty on the principal articles consumed during the year ending June 30th, 1871, to be—value, $518,370,518; duty, $202,446,673.

The Mexican government is so thoroughly bankrupt that it has no money with which to pay the soldiers. General Palacio, General Corlih and the guardian of the empty treasury have made a financial arrangement which consists of making a forced loan upon the merchants of Matamoras. These latter gentlemen, however, have once experienced the force the argument of cold steel. The American citizens, however, confide in the proximity of Brownsville, and the United States flag which waves over it, as a protection against this exaction. They should not be disappointed.

An eccentric lady named Abby Cumpton, recently died at Turner's, New York. Her administrators while inventorying her effects found various sums of money in unexpected places. Thus, there were $25 tucked away in the leaves of Ogden, Utah, in merry greets or granite rock, occurring not in veins but in masses and in open quarries on the side of a metamorphic mountain. This rock contains a little magnetic iron ore, hornblende, feldspar, quartz, iron pyrites and brown garnet. This is thought to be final for the present on the question of tin in the Rocky Mountains.

Adopting as a basis the duties paid on diamonds in the United States, and adding to that the value of other precious stones, such as rubies, etc., the aggregate worth of unmounted gems sold yearly in the United States reaches about ten millions of dollars.

An enterprising dry goods merchant in New York is advertising his wares by giving free promenade concerts in front of his store from seven to nine o'clock. His store is thronged nightly.

A woman in Indianapolis, a few days since, loaned a neighbor twenty-five dollars, taking a sewing machine as security for payment of the debt. Shortly after the transaction the woman who owned the keeping goods in pawn, without a license, the complaint being made by the party to whom the money was loaned. The loaner lost both money and security.

An Amherst Sophomore has devised a new way of telling bad news. He writes home to his father, "I came near losing thirty-seven dollars last week." Anxious parent writes back that he is thankful the money was not lost, and wants to know "how near." In return mail, "came within one of it—lost thirty-six."

A Quaker's advice to his son on his wedding day: "When thee went a courting I told thee to keep thy eyes wide open; now that thou art married, I tell thee to keep them half shut."

During the present year the exportations of wheat from Oregon to Europe have amounted to 500,000 worth.

A new feature in the Woman's Rights movement presents itself in Spain. Heretofore the men of Spain have nearly monopolized all the honor and glory attending the performances in the bull-ring, but now two young ladies, feeling the wrongs of their sex and burning for distinction, have entered the arena at Madrid and have slain not less than three roaring, wild and dangerous bulls. What next in the way of advance?

Among the many successes under the British Government is one connected with journalism—the editorship of the London *Gazette*, a semi-weekly paper which has for two hundred years been the official organ for all legal advertising. The salary is worth about $4,000. Some time since it was mooted to abolish this office, but Mr. Gladstone said that it was right and proper to reserve it as a means of rewarding any gentlemen of the press who have rendered special service to the Government. Mr. Thomas Walker, late of the *Daily News*, now holds the appointment.

Utica, New York, is enjoying the ministrations of a preacher of spiritualism, who styles herself Miss Lizzie Doten. Miss Doten is married, but the lady is married, and is accompanied by her husband, to whom it appears she was at first married secretly, and subsequently according to the "earthly" formula. The lady indulges in trances, and, when in this condition, delivers lectures which are said to be eloquent and sensible. These revelations are written by the husband, who receives them by some spiritual influence, without a word being spoken. Among the great dead with whom the lady is on terms of speaking intimacy, (as she says), are the Prophet Elijah, Martin Luther, John Wesley and a Chinese mandarin. From these parties, irreconcilable authorities, and by the help of her husband, Miss Reed has produced a new Bible which she predicts will, in due time, supersede the present one.

An English paper of November 27th says: The actual saving of time by the Mont Cenis tunnel has been ascertained and the various routes compared at a recent conference of representatives of Continental railways. The journey from Calais to Brindisi by the present routes, via Brindisi and the Brenner Pass, is timed to occupy 120 hours. If the mail left London as now at 8:35 on Friday, it would, according to the service proposed *via* the tunnel, reach Brindisi at 10:30 A. M. on Tuesday, and would leave Paris at 9 A. M., and reach Mondane at 11:45 P. M. the same day, Bologna at 10:30 A. M. on Sunday, arriving at Brindisi at 2:10 A. M. on Monday, and Alexandria at 10:10 on the morning of Thursday, the entire journey occupying 113 hours.

A document has been issued by the prominent Havana insurgents who have lately surrendered to the Government, which says: "In the future we will adhere to the throne of Spain, and are now disposed to aid the Government. We have seen our illusions vanish, because the country is not ready to support us, and foreigners failed to send us aid. The Government of Spain is now sufficiently strong to maintain the integrity of the territory." The document further says that the insurgents now in the field are mostly negroes.

A month or so ago everybody in Paris was complaining of the bad supply of money, but this has been remedied by a sudden issue of ten millions of shin-plasters of five, two and one franc denomination, and the ten millions of scrip are now all in the bank. The mint, too, is turning out daily two millions of gold and silver currency. The complaint now is that small change is too abundant, and that people are paying big bills with small scrip and currency.

The London Stock Exchange has had a sensation in the shape of a forged telegram, which purported to be a message from the Secretary of the Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Company, announcing an amalgamation between that company and the Midland Railway. The telegram was accepted without hesitation or further inquiry and immediately published. Sheffield stock consequently went up four or five per cent, and Midland fell slightly. The fraud was not discovered till next day. A good deal of stock changed hands and the losers being very sore, demanded vengeance on the originator of the hoax. The Stock Exchange has instituted a rigorous inquiry which will probably lead to the discovery of the originator.

A very odd case has occurred in Gloucester county New Jersey. About six weeks since a member of, the Catholic Church at Swedesboro died, and was buried in the churchyard in a lot owned by the widow. Prior to his death the deceased had been derelict in his religious duties and the priest ordered the remains to be removed from the burial ground. This having been ascertained a party of the friends of the deceased again dug up the body and replaced it in the original grave. On the following Sunday such of the party as belonged to the Catholic Church were expelled by the priest. The grand jury of Gloucester have now indicted the priest and his conjutors as resurrectionists, and he, in retaliation, is about to bring suits for trespass against those who replaced the body in the burial ground.

No more conclusive proof of the progress of liberalism in England can be given than that offered by the universal expressions of gratification, which are are given on every hand, at the recovery of John Bright. Here is an extract from a leading newspaper of 1842: "It is stated that Bright, the anti-corn law agitator, is expected to visit the wool fair which will be held at Alnwick shortly, in order to scatter the seeds of dissaffection in that quarter. Should he make his appearance, which is not improbable, it is to be hoped there may be found some stalwart yeoman ready to treat the disaffected vagabond as he deserved." But now, everybody, even his former keenest opponents, are ready to take him by the hand and welcome him back to public life. Surely this is a sign of the times.

The Medico-Legal Society of New York, at a recent meeting, received a report from the Committee on Criminal Abortion, which recommends a change in the law, so that the crime may be simply a felony without the present degrading denomination, and providing as a penalty *not less* than four years imprisonment. The report was adopted and a committee of responsible citizens appointed to wait on the Governor and urge the passage of such a law by the Legislature. This change would give a Judge the opportunity of sentencing such a villain as Rosenzweig to Sing Sing for life.

An Irish farmer was told that a mustard poultice on the feet and a hot water bath for the feet, were sure cures for a bad cold. He had a favorite pig suffering with the malady and he tried the remedies upon it. The result Pat explained to a friend thus: "I put the powtits on the pig, so I did; an' he squailed bloody murther, to be sure; an' the wool came off his back; an' thin I put the swait balst's feet into hot water, an' bejabers in five minutes the hoofs dropped off o' him intirely, too, so they did!"

A woman lately hung herself because her husband objected to her conversing with the male boarders, and left this last will and testament chalked on the back of a tea tray "Dear Jim—You have driven me to do this little affair. Be good to the dog, and ask Mrs. Little to be kind to the bibbs."

A correspondent writing from Europe tells the following story of the Empress of Brazil: While at Naples, recently, the Imperial party visited the famous Azure Grotto. The sea being rough, the Empress remained outside in a small boat. Suddenly the boatswoman, by whose side she was sitting, lost his balance, fell overboard, and would in all probability have been drowned, had not the Empress caught him as he sunk, and, by a great exertion, held him up, until the arrival of help. That is surely an example of which any Sovereign might be proud.

New York city boasts of twelve private galleries of paintings, computed to be worth one million dollars.

A Kansas paper is responsible for the following: About four weeks ago the wife of a farmer living near Geary City died. Last Sunday the bereaved and sorrow stricken husband sent to Doniphan for a minister to come and preach her funeral sermon, and then many him in a gushing manner he had selected to cheer him in his loneliness. The minister declined to comply with his request.

There are 126 Roman Catholic Bishops in the United States, 3,871 priests, 4,250 churches, and 1,700 chapels and stations. The membership is variously estimated at from 2,500,000 to 5,500,000.

The police discovered the other day in Rome a most treacherous plot. Several men were surprised setting fire to a whole train of petroleum at the railway station, close to the place where all the furniture of the empresses coming from Florence had been deposited. Many persons seem to be implicated in the deed, and the trial is to commence in a few days.

The *Western Catholic* has a very sensible idea of the relations of American Catholics to political parties. It condemns the "flocking" which has been their besetting sin, and insists that, while there is no reason why Catholics should attach themselves to one political party more than another, they should divide themselves among both, and act politically, henceforth, not as Catholics, but as American citizens.

Many young girls are suffering with disease and curvature of the spine, produced, the doctors affirm, from no other cause than the wearing of high French-heeled boots.

A Washington correspondent says that a wealthy and worthy colored man who has amassed a large fortune by many years of hard labor, proposes to purchase a plantation of 1,700 acres in South Carolina which was once the homestead of John C. Calhoun. Should the estate really become the property of a colored man, it will show indeed that the "world moves."

In view of the complicated condition of affairs between the United States and the Spanish Government, the relative naval strength of the two countries becomes interesting. The Spanish navy ready for action consists of seventy-three screw steamers, carrying 364 guns; twenty-four paddle steamers, carrying 127 guns, and thirteen sailing vessels, carrying 202; while our navy consists of forty-six ironclads, ninety-seven steamers and thirty-two sailing vessels, in all mounting 1,366 guns. But actually ready, only 254 guns. It will thus be seen that the forces of the Spaniards are quite as formidable as ours.

A great many literary clubs have been formed this season, to meet each week at the houses of the members. The subjects for discussion are selected by each making their own choice of subjects. These are said to be very instructive as well as amusing, and a hot supper at an early hour breaks up the meeting.

This illustrates the danger of going mousing around where one has no business. A mouse in Belfast, Maine, was found the other day frozen stiff upon a hammer. Investigation showed that in picking up something that lay on the iron head of the hammer the tongue of the mouse had frozen to it, and being unable to get away, it died.

It appears that the late disastrous fire in Chicago had the effect of increasing the correspondence passing through the Postoffice. The Postmaster reports to the Department 1,127,579 letters delivered for the month of November, a greater number than has ever been reported heretofore.

There is a rat story without a catastrophe to it: A Massachusetts pussy lay down in a fly wheel, early one morning, and was not discovered till the engine had been running three hours; a dog then detected her and gave the alarm. When the engine was stopped the cat was rescued unhurt, after making sixty revolutions a minute for three hours.

At the Tombs, New York, there is at the present time to be witnessed the edifying spectacle of a committee of medical men gravely examining a prisoner to determine whether he is sufficiently sane to undergo execution by hanging.

In a deserted shop in Pittsfield, Mass., there rests on its block an anvil that has done duty for more than three hundred years. It is as sound to-day as it was in the days when Edward Pomeroy, after shoeing for the Stuarts the ponderous horseshoes